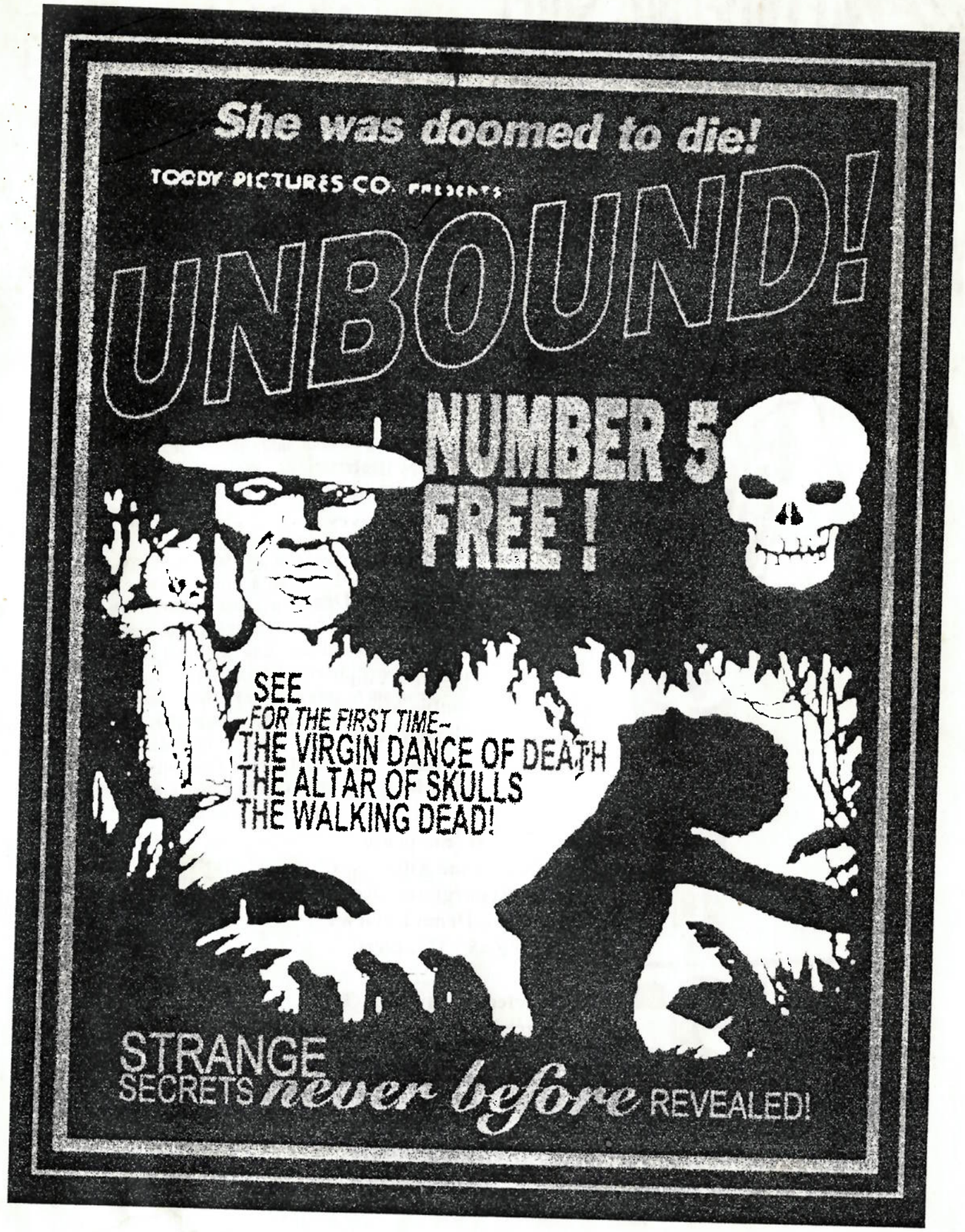
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UNBOUND!
NUMBER 5
FREE!
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THE VIRGIN DANCE OF DEATH
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STRANGE
SECRETS never before REVEALED!

UNBOUND PART 5

2000

What terrible nightmares haunt little Mike? And what kind of horrible secret is he hiding, what hideous trauma so awful has driven him to murder? These are the shocking mysteries that haunt, "Unbound Part 5", a horrific chiller most notable for being Mike Hochins' first movie. This is an unrelenting thriller that is sure to become a true horror classic.

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EDITOR'S BLAB

Issue #5! Well, I must say that it has been a lot of fun being back in the Underground. I didn't realize how much I missed having this 'zine in my life! Looking back I know why I quit, lack of funds, but the job I have now gives me the cash I need to keep it going! Are you excited? I sure as hell am.

I hope all of you fine folks enjoy the new issue. I think I'm covering a number of really great bands that deserve some attention. I'm trying to avoid covering bands that have interviews in every 'zine. Sure, I like a lot of bands that are more well known and get lots of coverage, but there are so many really great bands that don't get any coverage at all. Instead of an interview with Cannibal Corpse, you'll get one with Impaled, or Carved in Flesh.

Here's the annual ass kiss list, if it wasn't for these people you wouldn't have a hell of a lot to read about in this issue. Thanks to: **Liz, Paula and Nuclear Blast USA, PHD Canada, Jesus and God Records, Cynthia and Dischord, Marco and Lofty Storms, Sven and Aborted, Brad and Rhetoric, Jami and Man's Ruin, American Line Prod, Alternative Tentacles, Jill and Billy/Razorback, Chris/Metal Core, Jeff, April, Revelation, Delphine/Victory, Ian/Equal Vision, Nitro, Phil/Brutalized and all of the other labels and bands that sent in material! THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!**

If you want to write me, send me hate mail, naked pictures of your grandma, any correspondence at all, send it to:

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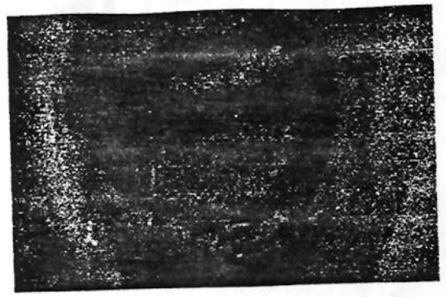


Metal is Life! (The Underground Separation)

The essays I write tend to be more political in nature, but this time I decided to write about the underground metal scene, and the one thing that really annoys me, the different sub-genres of metal and how they seem very hateful towards one another.

The death metal vs. black metal war is probably the most common. US death metal bands almost always seem to have so much hatred for black metal. They believe it is all image over substance. They say the music is weak and trendy. Black metal bands almost always say that they think American death metal is boring and only a few goods band have ever come out of North America. Why the hatred? No matter what sub-genre you are, you are both playing metal and ultimately fighting for the same cause. Bands need to help support one another, no matter what the bands image is, or what their lyrics deal with. If black metal bands play shows and spread fliers with death metal bands, and death metal bands did the same, the underground wouldn't be as divided. The more support the bands get, the more people that may be turned onto the scene and you never know they may just like black metal and death metal. The scene doesn't need to be divided.

I'll be the first to admit that metal heads are stubborn, we know what we like and we usually aren't afraid to say who we don't like as well. I openly admit that I don't like some black metal, but it doesn't turn into hatred. I'll still help support the bands by giving them reviews, spreading fliers, and helping out anyway I can. All of you death metal kiddies have to learn that black metal bands are people to, and they have feelings too. Albeit probably rather dark and spooky feelings. Jokes aside, this is a serious matter. If the bands need support give them your support. Any band in the underground can use the help and spreading fliers or spending $3 on their demo isn't too much to ask.

Zines seem to be pretty closed minded as well sometimes. I strongly feel that if you are going to give something a bad review, you may as well just leave it out all together. A bad review may tell people what you like and don't like, but it may turn people off to a type of band they may like. I suppose giving something a good review is the same thing though. Just because you like it doesn't mean that they would like it. You could make it out to be the release of the year and it could stink. I kind of got off track there. Many 'zines only cover one type of music, or sub-genre of metal rather. We cover only death metal! Well, I'm sure not everyone that comes across your mag will only listen to death metal. I've been in this situation before. My first 'zine Engulfed in Gore pretty well only covered death metal and It was by choice that no other style of music made it into the 'zine. But as they say variety is the spice of life. Many people appreciate the different sub-genres and like reading about the different bands. Then again an interview with Hammerfall wouldn't really go well along side interviews with Haemmorhage and Dead Infection.

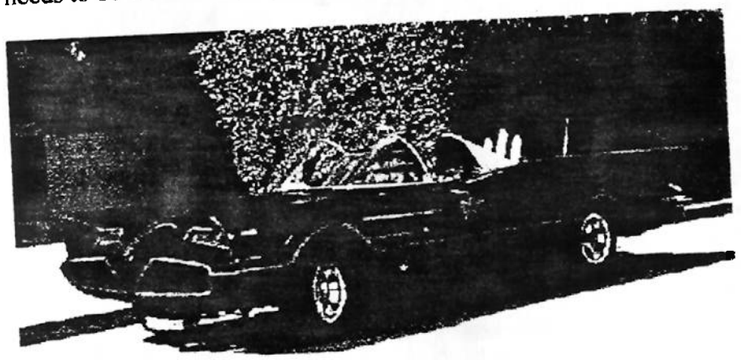
I know a lot of you are probably thinking this whole rant is pretty worthless and you probably think it is pointless at well. Well, bite me. Metal is the style of music I love, all sub-genres. If you listen to death metal, and only death metal you are really missing out. Back in the day the line between death metal and black metal was not as defined. Bands like Bathory, Venom, Celtic Frost, and Hellhammer could almost be called either. They were the bands that pretty much got the ball rolling in both black metal and death metal. Whether you like it or not death metal and black metal go together and always have gone together. You just have to quit being so stubborn. Even if you are searching for Suffocation clone #2000, you may find something in another sub-genre that appeals to you. Don't let labels stop you from checking out bands. Well, the only thing I am closed minded towards is rap-core, so that label does stop me from checking out those bands. But metal is a vast genre full of many different sounding bands and has an entire underground full of bands that need your support.

P.S. Fuck trends! Metal forever!

Rants and raves!

By Mike Hochins

I must say that I have been going through a lot in the last little while. I suppose you could say it has been a time where I've had to look at my life and realize that I'm not the person I thought I was. It's tough to look in the mirror and realize that you don't like the person that you are. I'm not talking psychically. I don't even care about what I look like this is more about feeling ugly on the inside. I usually don't look at my self with such introspection, but I know things need to change. The fuck everything attitude really isn't anyway to live your life. Maybe I'm getting a bit too personal for my own good here, but I need to get some of this off of my chest. I'm not even sure what I am trying to say. All I want to get across is that sometimes we need to take a look deeper into ourselves and realize that maybe we aren't perfect. Everyone is flawed and that is something you have to learn how to deal with. Take a look at yourself and see if anything needs to be worked on, if you don't you may lose something that you hold dear.



Well enough about my personal life let's move on to something else. Lately I have been noticing that punk is losing it's mainstream popularity and metal is starting to become more popular. At first you may think this is a good thing, but are these really the bands you want people to associate with metal? Do you want people to think of Korn or Limp Biskit? This watered down wigger-core that everyone is calling metal really has nothing to do with the genre. I'm not one to set the limitations of the genre, because it is quite vast, but these bands really have nothing to do with metal. I would say a better description would be heavy alternative, or perhaps even hard rock. I'm not going to slag anyone that listens to any of these bands, but I just don't like everyone saying metal is coming back. It never fucking went anywhere! Metal isn't a trend. Almost all metal is too extreme to be accepted in the mainstream, in North America at least. While everyone has been saying metal is dead, the underground has been thriving. Most people don't realize that there are bands out there that aren't played on the radio. Imagine that! This is the music that I love. It's not a trend. We won't have to worry about the bands we love moving on to another genre because they haven't made any money. I wouldn't count on Nile making a ska record anytime soon! Funny thought though. Anyway, I just wish people weren't so ignorant about the genre of metal. Know your role!

So on to some more ranting and raving. I've been noticing a total lack of anything worth watching on television. Hell, I usually don't watch much TV, but every fucking show is the same! It's either a black comedy that makes fun of white people, or a sitcom that deals with love and relationships. Why doesn't anyone push the envelope a little bit? Why not have a show that deals with more realistic stuff like ugly people! Everything in the media is based on creating an image of what "you" should act like, be like, look like etc. I guess that the 20-30 hours they si in front of the TV conditions them to act a certain way and pushes so many products down their throat that soon they are puking up conformity. The image that they are creating for girls to achieve is very unrealistic. Not all girls are thin, and look like either Barbie or a reject from MTV. The same goes for guys. Not all guys are muscular and play sports. TV needs to be more realistic. At least they still play re-runs of Cheers!

While on the subject of television, CNN really needs to be shot. I have never seen such blatant use of tragedies to increase ratings. I mean, it is their job to bring us the new, but do we need to hear about the tragedy for 24 hours a day? It doesn't just end there. They milk it for as long as they can. I remember seeing stuff about the Columbine shooting for weeks and weeks. Don't they know when to lay things to rest? If you were involved with the tragedy I'm sure you would be looking for some closure of some kind. Seeing the aftermath in graphic detail on CNN probably wouldn't be the closure you are looking for. They, CNN, truly are wolves on the hunt. They smell news and they won't let it go until it is lying rotting and covered with flies at their feet. The news should just give us the facts. We don't need to know how it affects everyone involved. CNN are wolves, and once they sink their teeth into something they never let go.

Oh yea, the millennium is over! I mean I suppose it is a big dea but if you live your life day to day it really doesn't matter wha the calendar happens to be on. The only thing that time dictate is what happens to be trendy, what was trendy, and what ha happened in our past. It is important that we have recorded ou history as we have made some pretty important accomplishmen over time. Yet no matter how many technological advances w have made we have only gotten worse in terms of humanism. W have advanced while going backwards. The thought that li may one day be completely mechanical is very scary. We are f too removed from nature as it is. I think people sometimes forg that we are animals too. I'm not trying to sound like a tr hugger but if you take this planet for granted, you may soon n have any planet left.

That's pretty much all I have to rant about for this issue. We actually I decided to stop before I get carried away. I'm sure could go on and on for pages upon pages. Maybe one day I'll d an issue that is just me bitching about things that happen everyday life. I bet none of you would read it though. Oh we one day.

EarKillers

Here's a list of some of the shit that I've been listening to lately.

Celtic Frost-Morbid Tales!
At the Gates-The Red Sky is Ours/With Fear...
Bane-It All Comes Down to This
Saves the Day-Through Being Cool
Dismember-Indecent and Obscene
Elvis-Everything! (Hail to the KING!)
Fleshgrinder-S.P.L.A.T.T.E.R.
Reballeun-Burning the Promised Land
Himsa-Ground Breaking Ceremony
S.O.D.-Bigger then the Devil

EyeKillers

Here's some flicks that I've been wasting time watching lately.

Batman-The Movie (The Original baby!)
The Prophecy (Walkin for President)
House (Ding Dong your Dead Indeed!)
Head of the Family
Goodfellas (Am I a clown? Do I amuse you?)
Robocop (My hero!)
Mad Max (This movie rocks!)
I Dismember Mama (70's horror!)
Northville Cemetery Massacre
Porno flicks starring me and your mom!

MindKillers

Here's some stuff that I've been reading lately! Yes, I can read! Surprise surpirse!

S.O.D. #13
Metal Core #27
Zodiac of Death (See review for more info!)
Brutalized #7

LONG LIVE THE LIVING DEAD!!

Essential Metal! Where it all Started!

There once was a time when this music was completely new, devoid of all trends, devoid of commercialism and above all devoid of a vast number of clone bands. With every album a band would release came something completely new and while the bands were similar they were all very distinct and each brought something unique to the table. Whether you'd consider these bands as the beginning of death metal, or black metal is up to your personal interpretation. But these are the bands that got the ball rolling by adding the extremity to both the image of the band and to the music as well. This little article will only scratch the surface of what I think is mandatory metal listening. Grab a beer, sit back and get ready for a trip down memory lane! This isn't in chronological order, it's not really in any order at all.

In 1985 three German metal heads recorded one of the greatest thrash records of all time. The band was Kreator, and the album was Endless Pain. 10 tracks of blistering thrash that is somewhat reminiscent of early Slayer, but taken to the next level. The vokills were gravely and harsh and song names like Total Death, Tormentor, and Bone Breaker set the pace for what is a very extreme listen. Kreator followed up their debut lp with their sophomore effort, Pleasure to Kill. 9 tracks of whirlwind thrash metal taken to even more extremes then the debut. This album shows a more technical tighter version of the band. The guitars bludgeon, while the drums pummel, all the while Mille's vocals spit forth hate over top. These two albums, along with the Flag of Hate Ep, are the essential Kreator albums. Total Death!

Are you morbid? I certainly am and I'm sure it was repeat listenings to **Celtic Frost's** Morbid Tales Ep that made me t way! From the ashes of Hellhammer rose Tom.G.Warrior and two comrades in battle, Martin Ain, and Reed St. Mark. Wh these three play there is something magical going on. The guit are sludgy and the drums pound away underneath. Warrior's vo is very distinctive and along with the varying tempos, it was voice that helped set Celtic Frost aside from the pack. Their mu was definitely ahead of its time and went on to be highly influent especially to the likes of Obituary and many other death m bands. Unfortunately, Celtic Frost made a bad decision and went glam. Even if this is comple unforgivable, they still left us a few gems that are now considered metal classics. Check out Mo Tales/Emperor's Return, as well as To Mega Therion. You should also check out Hellhammer's Apocaly Raids EP.

My choice to include this band may seem strange, but **Sepultura** also helped get the ball rolling with d metal. In 1985 they released the Brutal Devastation EP, and in 1986 they released the Morbid Visions Both were raging slabs of cult metal influenced by early Slayer, Possessed, and Metallica. It is ha imagine that this is the same band that recorded crap albums like Roots when you see the pictures of the bullet-belt clad Brazilian's that don the cover of Morbid Visions. The songs were simple and raging metal and above all catchy as hell. Along with Sarcafago this started Brazilian death metal, a scene tha spawned two of the best new school death metal blasters, Abhorrence, and Krisiun.

The name Bathory shouldn't be new to any of you. What started as a sloppy, yet very extreme band progressed into one of the best metal bands of all time! From the unrelenting chaos of the bands debut to the acoustic strains of the newer material Quorthon and co. have left a legacy that has taken the extreme music scene by storm. It is staggering how many bands call Bathory an influence and this is equally driven home by the In Conspiracy with Satan tribute that was released last year. Bands such as Emperor, Dark Funeral and Marduk all pay homage to the masters of black metal. Many think the debut album is were it all started and I'm hard-pressed not to agree. Essential albums are the self-titled debut, The Return, Under the Sign of the Black Mark, and Blood, Fire, Death. The newer albums are also worth checking out but they are somewhat lacking in terms of extremity. The album Requiem is a return to the roots of Bathroy so to speak, but it just isn't the same.

Welcome to Hell! Three dorks from London, using the names Cronos, Abbadon and Manthas, better known as Venom created two very influential albums, Welcome to Hell and Black Metal. They stunk at playing their instruments, but do you think they cared? Fuck no. Singing about Satan and wearing spikes is what it's all about! Songs like Black Metal, Witching Hour, Welcome to Hell and many others are now considered metal classics. Even though the band is still together they just don't live up to what they have released in the past. The reunion has somewhat fallen flat and I'm sure it didn't take the world by storm as they had hoped. I'd recommend just sticking to the first two lps, Welcome to Hell and Black Metal. Their LP, Possessed isn't terrible, but it isn't as strong as the first two. Lay down your soul to the Gods rock n roll!

What would an article about where it all started be without the gods themselves, SLAYER! Even though they went on to be one of the best thrash bands ever, the first 2 albums were Satanic as hell and definitely had a lot to do with helping to create the death metal sound. Hell Awaits in particular was a very technical, pounding and fast as hell album. Its influence is still heard today. Songs like Praise of Death and Necrophiliac can now be considered metal classics. They also may have started the murderous lyrical strain that is very much a staple of the death metal genre. "Kill Again" is a perfect example of this. The debut LP, "Show No Mercy", was a bit more melodic and not as technical, but it was still just as evil. I certainly hope Slayer is not new to you. If they are why the hell are you even listening to metal? Seriously, Slayer are one of the best metal bands ever, but like all good things they either die or start to show their age. Slayers newer

efforts are just not the same. The newest album especially. You really can't go wrong with Show No Mercy, Hell Awaits, or Reign in Blood. Reign in Blood has been called the best thrash metal album of all time. I completely agree! EVIL HAS NO BOUNDRIES!

Formed in San Francisco in 1983, the Possessed were an early death-metal band. Their lineup featured guitarist Larry Lalonde, vocalist/bassist Jeff Beccarra, guitarist Mike Tarrao, and drummer Mike Sus. After signing to Combat Records they released the highly influential cd, "Seven Churches." An album that many consider ahead of it's time and also said by many to be one of the first death metal albums. The band released a few more albums, but Seven Churches is mandatory metal listening.

Sodom and Destruction, along with both coming from Germany, both brought out albums that have become influential and are still extreme sounding today. Both of the bands were of the thrash variety and along with Kreator they are probably the most well known thrash bands from the area. Here's what's mandatory. For Destruction: Sentence of Death, Infernal Overkill, and Eternal Devastation. The mandatory Sodom is: In the Sign of Evil, Persecution Madness, Obsessed by Cruelty and Agent Orange. Both bands are still together today. Sodom is still playing raging thrash, but I'm afraid Destruction is only a shadow of it's former self.

This article is just scratching the surface of what was alive when this genre was first starting. I would have to write an entire book to fit every band in! So this article is a start. Maybe in the future I will expand upon this. But for now this will have to suffice. Here's a list of some other albums that helped start everything as well as a few newer genre-defining albums.

Death-Scream Bloody Gore
Morbid Angel-Altars of Madness
Necrophagia-Seasons of the Dead
Suffocation-Effigy of the Forgotten
Cannibal Corpse-The Bleeding
Dismember-Like an Ever Flowing Stream
Entombed-Left Hand Path, Clandestine
At the Gates-Slaughter of the Soul
Deicide-s/t

These are just a few of the albums that make death metal what it is. If you are a fan of the genre I highly recommend that you check out the bands that got the ball rolling. You may be pleasantly surprised by how good some of these bands are and I'm sure you'll find out where some of your favorite bands got (stole) a lot of their ideas from. Take the old with the new I say. **METAL LIVES!**

NO REST FOR THE DEAD

Few bands ever release a demo that is 100% original, something that transcends everything you have heard in a genre that is filled with lots of quality bands, but a genre that has few bands that push the envelope. No Rest for the Dead is a breath of fresh air to fans of death metal. Combining stoner rock and death metal isn't really a completely new idea, but it has never been done to this extreme, or played with such authority. No Rest... can pummel you into submission with their break neck tempos or draw you in with their bluesy guitar passages. This band is not one to be taken lightly. Well, light headed maybe.

UN: Introduce the members of No Rest for the Dead for the many readers who have probably not heard of the band.
Dead k: Now No Rest for the Dead line up are different from "the End of Space" cd line up. On every track in the cd, 138 sings and plays all basses. But in September, we fired 138 because he didn't agreed with our new vocalist I took. I suppose you say "why they need new vocals??", but no rest for the dead is a band that advances very speedily. If you listen to "earthling from mars" demo and "the end of space" cd, you'll understand me. After we created our cd, we got a new style. But we need new vocalist with normal voice by all means.138 agreed with that point, but he didn't like MORI (new vocalist)... So me and A did need MORI for our new No Rest for the Dead, we fired 138. I know it was not so good time to change our line up, but I think its really good for No Rest for the Dead, because there was a difference in music nature between me and 138. Yes, I know 138 is good musician. He made some good No rest songs... but we can't play at same place to enjoy music. That's it. So now, our line up is: Mori - vocal, guitar, Dead k – guitar and A – drums. Now we are in session with the bassist we like. So we can get our new bassist in few weeks. I hope.

UN: How did the bands sound evolve? Did you guys consciously try to combine grindcore and stoner rock? How the hell would you describe your music?
DK: Yes, we surely did it consciously. We were a very grindcore/death metal band when we started No Rest for the Dead. We were just grindcore kids. But I and Funny(he was the lead guitarist till "earthling from mars") did not want to play speed guitar solo, so we put blues lead guitar into our grindcore in stead of that. Our musical experiment started then. And we'd got more and more rock, because we'd started to listen to many classic rock bands like Pink Floyd. I think "the end of space" is the best cd called stoner grind rock. A half grindcore and a half-stoned psychedelic rock are in it. "Earthling from Mars" is more grinding works, and now new No Rest for the Dead is just rock. If I gotta describe our music of now, I say "just 21st century rock".

UN: You guys have a full-length CD coming out soon on Deaf America. How did you guys hook up with Rich? Were you guys fans of Brutal Truth?
DK: Yes, sure. Formerly all members loved brutal truth. I think they were the perfect and complete one as real grindcore. So, I wanted rich to listen to our sound when we made "Earthling from Mars" demo. I sent rich our tape, he liked it and he signed No Rest for the Dead. That's all.

UN: Give us the lowdown on your debut full length. Name, song-titles, length, etc.
DK: Ok, 6 main songs are in "The End of Space". The titles of the songs are...
1. never see the sunbeam, my son
2. dislocated
3. breed the freak
4. here comes the new world
5. waste of the threat
6. any green here

If you suspect that this cd is full length, you are wrong because "Any Green Here" is the 19 minutes song. This is very quiet song but very exciting like Pink Floyd's "Echoes".

UN: The only thing I have from the band is the Earthling from Mars demo. Has the band released anything other then the demo?
DK: Yes, we have one more demo called "Deny my Existence". It was made in the summer of '97. Just grindcore/deathmetal and real underground works (not so good sound quality!). The works had little poor experimentation.

UN: No Rest for the Dead played a mini-tour while in the states recording your cd. How were the shows? Particularly how was the crowd reaction?
DK: I can remember that the tour was exciting and fun. At almost of the gigs, the reaction of the people watching us was very good. We played at New York at the final day we stayed, that was perfect. We really enjoyed to play and the more than 200 people were excited. That was so cool...

UN: This question is probably the most overused question ever, but who would you consider the bands main influences? It seems to me that Jimi Hendrix could go right hand in hand with a number of extreme bands. Your sound is very unique.
DK: Yes, Jimi Hendrix is my guitar hero every time, but at the point of main influence, Pink Floyd is the one. Our musical influences are gradually getting changed, but Pink Floyd is the main part of No Rest for the Dead, though every member was influenced by many musicians. (Mori : the doors, radiohead, etc. dead k : stone roses, miles davis, etc. A : king crimson, buddy rich, etc.) But about the songs in the cd, I gotta give you the grindcore like brutal truth, disrupt, entombed, etc.(I love them!)

UN: I am a huge fan of Japanese hardcore and grindcore, what do you think are some of the best bands? Other then yourselves of course. You guys definitely don't sound like the typical Japanese band though I have to say.
DK: Typical Japanese grindcore band... 324, nikudorei, D-river,etc. I like them and they can have me put into grind. Yes, No Rest for the Dead isn't the same as them at all. They are on the real grindcore way, I think so.

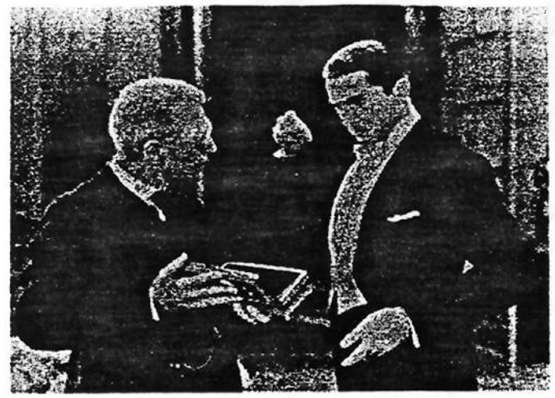
UN: If you had to sum up No Rest for the Dead in one word what would it be?
DK: Art.

UN: Does the band have any plans to come back to the US when you have your cd out? Any touring plans at all?
DK: We have the plan in the near future, first - to get new bassist. second – to do a tour in Japan. third - to do a tour in Usa. If we can, we want to go to US in February because I think people will have the chance to know us to get listened our cd till then, and we are free in February and March. Anyway, we really want to go back there soon!

UN: O.k. that's it for me. Thanks for the interview. Any final thoughts?
DK: Check "the end of space" out and keep your eye on new No Rest for the Dead. We'll do the best any time. Thanks a lot!!!!!

Carved in Flesh

Interview with Josh Hemenway



UN: Introduce the members of the band and describe the style of music Carved in Flesh play. I'm sure this will serve as an introduction to many people.
JH: On the CD the line-up is Joe Hicks lead guitar and vocals, Ronni Boyer lead guitar, Dave Dunlap bass, and myself on drums. The new line up keeps founding members Joe and I, and adds guitar player Alex Honcell to the mix. We're still shopping round for the bass that clicks, so I encourage all available bad-ass bass players to get in touch! We play INTENSE BRUTAL DEATH that thrives on cathchy riffs and a touch of technicality. When writing drums, I like to switch shit all around and try to keep the song interesting. Vocals alternate between shredding screams and devastating growls, depending on what the feel of the music calls for. Lyrics are carefully worded which adds to the intensity and brings a special twist to every song.

UN: You have released a CD called As Seen Through Tears, which in my opinion is one of the best underground releases I have heard in some time. How has the response to the CD been? And also feel free to give the readers the lowdown on the CD.
JH: AHHH, fuckin great dude!! We're extremely happy with how the underground's taking us. One killer review after another and killer comments from anyone that digs heavy shit. The CD contains seven well thought out songs, quality production recorded at Diamond Mine Studio in Columbus OH, and produced by us. Joe drew up the logo and did the art work on the cover.

UN: Has the band's sound progressed since the release of the CD? Also you previously had a demo cassette available, do you feel you have progressed since your early days? Did the demo sound different then you do now?
JH: Definitely, the new material is twisted, faster, and a little more technical. Joe keeps spitting out these crazy fuckin riffs, topped with brutal vocals and wicked topics. Yea, shit was real raw when we recorded the demo, and we still keep it raw. Live, we don't use any effects, except for what the sound guy might add. We've learned to use the studio more and have basically matured as musicians. Listening to the demo, you know without a doubt it's C.I.F. Now it's just C.I.F. with added intensity.

UN: How is the scene in Ohio these days? For underground death metal it seems to be a bit of a hot spot. How is the scene in Wapakoneta? Am I correct assuming it is a rather small town?
JH: Yea, the scene in Ohio is pretty good. If you're really into metal you can pretty much find a show to go to every weekend. Wapak is really small, but somehow we've managed to corrupt quite a few people. When there's a show, the word travels fast.

UN: Metal seems to be coming back around these days, not that it went anywhere, but it just seems the underground is becoming stronger again. Have you noticed this at all? Any newer bands catch your attention?

JH: Maybe it's just the people I meet, but it seems like humans are opening their minds to music. I can't even count the times somebody's came over or been crusin with me and said, "What r u listening to, that's bad as fuck!" I'll give them a couple of fliers for distros and point them in the right direction. Shit I've been listening to lately that's not really new but is new to my collection is Nile, S.A.T.A.N., Skinless, Jungle Rot, Krisiun, Unblessed, and a tape I lost years ago. No cover, just a bunch of bad-ass bands and I don't have any idea who they are. The tape says, Wallow in Sickness... ...Wither in Death II. If anyone has any info. on this, please contact me, I think it's a comp.

UN: One thing I liked about the cd was that you guys don't use the standard gore lyrics. Did you guys avoid this consciously? I mean, I like reading lyrics about zombie sex and chain saws, but it's nice to hear a change once in awhile. What do your lyrics tend to deal with?
JH: We definately avoided the gore lyrics. Joe is extremely picky and when writing we all try to stay away from the standard, and be as original as possible. The lyrics are simply, feeling brought to words. Every member of C.I.F. must have a certain outlook on life, because if you're true, you write what you feel. The CD opens up with me saying, "Have you ever wanted to die?" Musically and lyrically we feel dead, anger, depression, hate, suicidal. Internal-Combustion, you know, the kind of shit that drives a person to kill!!!

UN: What are Carved in Flesh's plans for the future? Has their been any label interest?
JH: Plague the world. We'll advertise and promote as much as possible. Unfortunately, we don't have any labels beaten down our door yet. Labels, zines, bands, metal-radio, and distros get in touch. Try it, you might like it. Right now we're working on hammering out material for the next CD. We're also working on a couple of other ideas that are just to good to unveil at this time. Guess you'll just have to come to the show to see.

UN: Give all of the readers the lowdown on all of the merchandise you have available.
JH: At the present time, all we have available is the CD, $10 through us, add $1 for shipping US and $2 for shipping world. We're out of demos and all three shirt styles. However, we are making a new shirt and will probably continue the old shirts as the demand is so large. The "give up" shirt came out with the demo, black sh. sl. with solid red logo on ft. and blood splatter with razor blade says give up on bk. I'm fucking sick sh. sl. white or black has red pinstripe logo on ft. and says I'm fucking sick on bk. New shirt- black lg. sl., blue "As Seen Through Tears" down one sl. and red carved in flesh bleeding up the other sl. with razor blade still laying at you're sliced wrist. The back may have a round band photo with "Welcome to the Funeral" circling and we haven't decided on the front yet. Please write for merchandise pricing and availability, By the time you read this we may have product in hand.

UN: Well, that's all for now. Thanks for the interview. Tell everyone why they should check out Carved in Flesh.
JH: #1 Intense Metal Stimulates the Mind! C.I.F.
#2 Are you fiending for creativity? C.I.F.
#3 It's not very often you hear sick new blood. C.I.F.
#4 Don't take my word for it, the truth lies Underground! C.I.F.
#5 Don't make us kill you, cause the music played softly behind your eulogy is none other than... C.I.F.

CARVED IN FLESH
c/o Josh Hemenway
15800 Wapak-Fisher Rd.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

UN: So it has now been proven that any band can get signed. How did the deal with Necropolis Records come about? I know Impaled are the truest black metal band in the US. Are you guys ready to get down and spooky?
Sean: Oh, how droll. This question amuses me in the utmost fashion. Of course Impaled is not a black metal band in real life. We do not have any use for face make-ups or knee high boots outside of our personal lives. As for the reason behind this mephistophelean merger I have only one word; We blackmailed them.
Leon: Vagina. Boobies. Let's quit beating around the bush. Smurfhole. Let's just get straight into the sexually explicit hodgepodge of pleasure! Monkeybutton.
Raul: No kidding. Well, it was a night of sex, drugs and Rock and Roll. I was talking to Joker and Jason and they where trying to get me to reveal the plans we had with this other company in Italy, of course being as clever as I am, I had to tell them everything. You see, they buy me a beer. So, anyway, we where talking and they popped the question, will you marry us? Oh no, that's not the one. They said would you guys like to sign with us? So we said yes. The next day they tried to back out of the verbal agreement, saying that they were too drunk, but it only took a couple of whoop-ass cans for them to remember.

UN: How has the response to your demo been so far? "From Here to Colostomy" is one of the best demos I've heard in a long time. Did you expect any label interest to come from this demo?
Sean: Well, we moved about 5000 demos in the first week and we got a pretty good reaction right off the bat. That is to say, we got a pretty good reaction up until people actually listened to it. We certainly did expect label interest. Of course we expected David Geffen to come knocking down our door and were quite displeased when a short, tubby little freak with mullet and coke bottle glasses who introduced himself as Typhoon or Mudslide or some shit was the only guy that showed up.
Leon: Ha! Mudslide did indeed offer us the best contract. He was the only one who was willing to pay for this piece of shit to come out. When he came over to preview our stuff, we just played him the new Morbid Angel record and said it was us. Fool! We plan on single-handedly putting Necrapolis out of business with just ONE release.
Raul: Yeah, we moved 5,000 copies, but what Sean didn't tell you is that every single copy went to the Miracle Childrens Network. They fucked us over! They told us we will have, in the mail, 5,000 pictures and letters of little kids we sponsored with the demo, but I guess those 5,000 letters got lost in the mail, uh!!!

UN: You guys have recently released a split ep with Cephalic Carnage. Give us the lowdown on this EP. Also what are your thoughts on Cephalic Carnage? I haven't had the pleasure of hearing them yet, are they as incredible as everyone says?
Leon: Yes. They are challenging, yet authentic. Avant Garde yet brutalistic. They have ensmultified everything which embodies the creative endeavor and put it to wax. Not only this, but we sniffed some stuff together in a hotel in Texas, and when I woke up, I was wearing a baboon suit and was tightly gripping a bottle of Toilet Duck.
Raul: I've known those guys for years, and they are great, really tight and the drummer is one psycho son of a bitch. That time in Texas, I told Leon not to sniff that Mister Clean shit, I had the brasso cleaner. Now that was the shit!

UN: I need to ask this, why the hell are you guys so obsessed with shit? I mean hell, I think crap is cool to, but why do you guys take it to this extreme? Have you ever been shit on before?
Sean: Ask Leon. It's not my fault.
Leon: Ask Sean, he's the pervert.
Raul: ask Ross, he's the one getting urine all over him.

UN: I would describe Impaled as a cross between old school Dismember and classick Carcass. Do you agree with this at all? What is it about the sensitive sounds of Dismember and Carcass that gets your goat? I remember you saying Symphonies of Sickness is one of your favorite albums.
Leon: Uh, who?? I don't know what you're talking about. As far as bands we sound like, I can't say that there are any. We made up this genre "Death Metal," as we like to call it, and are the sole inhibitors of said genre. Those bands you mentioned sound like rip-offs to me. Symphonies of... what again??
Raul: I have no idea what bands you are talking about, to tell you the truth. I'm just playing with this band for one reason, OK, two reasons: Money and Girls and Beer. OK, three reasons. I don't even like the shit we play.

UN: I remember you saying that you will be featured on a Necropolis compilation before the LP comes out. What compilation is this and what track will you guys be including?
Sean: Well, it was supposed to come out in August but due to a severe back up in the plumbing system at Necropolis HQ (I just want to re-iterate that I only took a piss and Matt went in there right after me), it was postponed. Whether it comes out before the cd is anyone's guess.
Leon: Yeah, I think Matt did it, too. I heard he gots big poopoos. The compilation was just us. It was gonna be called "Impaled--Greatest Shits," but since that includes less than even one song, they didn't feel it would be worth the cost to print up several hundred CDs containing no "musical" information.
Raul: Yep! I think the comp. is being mastered as we speak. My sources tell me it might come out as a Pit Mag/Nec. Rec. kind of thing, you know. The Cd in the middle of a Play Boy mag.

UN: Tell us about Spirits of the Dead, your debut cd. It may be awhile off, but I'm sure you guys have quite a bit planned already. Do you have any song titles, album cover, anything yet? Tell us about the meaning of Spirits of the Dead too.
Sean: Actually, the title Spirits of the Dead was made up by a friend of mine by the name of Steve Baker, who also is credited with Gorenography. Now we get to the ultra clever part. It's a song about making booze out of dead bodies. Ha! Get it? Spirits, 'cause it's like spirits that you drink, and then... oh never mind.
Leon: You idiot, the CD is called "The Dead Shall Dead Remain." That song "Spirits of the Dead" is by Winger! Tee hee! Oh but I fib! But no, really, the CD is called "The Dead Shall Dead Remain." It will feature these songs: "Booyah 2 ya," "Muttonchop Barnyard Slaughter Success," "My Testicles are Fully Lubricated," "AC is gay," "Choice of a New Generation (The Pepsi Song)," "More Songs about Dookie," "The Rain of Grief Falls on the Tree of Sorrow in the Forrest of Blighted Elves," and "Super Happy Donkey Gorilla."
Raul: Yeah, you idiot.

UN: You have told me many times that American music really doesn't do anything for you. What newer bands are you into? Are you into what the fine folks in the underground are calling gore/grind? IS your love affair for Engorged still going on?
Sean: Right now I like Engorged, Sanitys Dawn, the new Immolation is pretty good for American DM, and mostly old bands like Carcass and Megadeth and Demilich and shit.
Leon: Whatever. No new bands are good. If you are thinking about starting a new band, I strongly advise you to fuc off and die. I like Engorged, but not like that. We're just friends. There is only one new band out there worth pickin up, and that is a pretty unknown band called "Bootsy Collins' Rubber Band."
Raul: Like I said before, I don't like this type of music, remember! Money, Girls and Beer.

UN: I'm going to open a can of whoop-ass right now. What are your feelings about Exhumed? I don't want start a war or anything, I know you were a member of the band in the past, but you were kicked out for n being metal enough. What do you think of "Gore Metal"?
Sean: I like them personally. I consider them friends although we have had disagreements on the amount of Exhumed influence that can be found in an Impaled stage show. But we always work things out with a spirited round of fisticuffs. I think Gore Metal is probably one of the best American Death Metal albums put out in awhile although I'm not crazy about the production, or lack thereof.
Leon: pASS.

UN: Does Impaled have any touring plans? Do you guys play a lot of shows? Do your shows usually end up with people throwing tomatoes at you guys? Or do they just laugh in your face for playing such crappy music? Seriously, didn't you guys just recently play a small tour?
Leon: Yes of course, like any other astute band we have touring plans. Whether they are ever carried out is anyone's guess. We're doing a (now very short) tour from Portland, OR, to Tacoma, WA, San Francisco, CA, and L.A., CA. starting on Thanksgiving day. Ross can't make it, though, because his mom forbid him to miss Thanksgiving Dinner with the family. I predict that Raul will tell us all something we know already in his next answer.
Raul: I have and important announcement to make, being as lazy as I am. I think I'm doing this interview last, the point is Engorged sent an email and the show in Tacoma, WA. is canceled and they won't be able to play the San Francisco show so it all comes down to Portland and LA.
Leon: Toldjah so.

UN: Do you think anyone might be surprised that Leon, one of the madmen behind Impaled, is actually one of the biggest nerds around? Does he have an I "heart" the Internet sticker on his car? Computers aren't very evil I'm afraid.
Sean: Yes, the madman waaaay behind Impaled. I have to defend Leon at this point. I have to because he's making me, the jerk. Here goes: Never have I, _____, seen a cooler and more "with it" "dude" than Leon. I bask in his Fonzie (tm)-like demeanor and only wish I,_____, could be as hip as he (Leon). I'll fill in the other parts by hand.
Leon: Ayyyyyyy!!
Raul: Leon has a tattoo on his butt that reads 'I "HEART" THE INTERNET'

UN: What do you think are the top 5 metal albums of all time! HORNS UP!
Sean: Symphonies of Sickness, Rust in Peace, Consuming Impulse, Hallucinations, Nespithe
Leon: Anything I was featured on, or:
Like an Everflowing Stream/Dismember
Symphonies of Sickness/Carcass
Where No Life Dwells/Unleashed
Left Hand Path/Entombed
Anything/Wesley Willis
Raul: Reign In Blood, Coma Of Souls, Slaughter Of The Soul, Harmony Corruption and The Dead Shall Dead Remain

UN: Ok, that's it. Thanks for putting up with my shit, seeing as though I had to put up with all of yours. Any final shits? Please remember to wipe guys!
Leon: The shitting has just begun, my fine friend. Write...if you send me Bettie Page stuff, I will send you this handsome garment made by very poor people in foreign countries. Fuck off!

Impaled, c/o Leon del Muerte, 2010 Fell St., San Francisco, CA., 94117 USA
www.impaled .net

DESPISE YOU

UN: Hey guys! What's new with despise you?
Alex: JUST THE NEW CD, NOT REALLY "NEW" ANYMORE, THOUGH.

UN: Tell us about your new cd "West Side Horizons." I know it is your debut LP, but it also contains a ton of bonus tracks. What split eps are included?
A: SPLITS WITH STAPLED SHUT, CROM, SUPPRESSION, AND OUR OWN 7" - PCP SCAPEGOAT

UN: So know that you have made that leap into the digital dimension (HAHA), what's next for the band? Weren't you supposed to release a split with Man is the Bastard out sometime? Is this still going to happen?
A: NO, WE USED THOSE SONGS FOR THE "WESTIDE..." CD. MITB BROKE UP BEFORE WE COULD GET IT OUT.

UN: What is the scene in Inglewood like? I have heard that California is very receptive to bands of the grindcore/power violence genre. Do they like their music fast down there? Has it become trendy at all?
A: THERE'S NO PUNK/GRIND HEADS IN INGLEWOOD. BUT L.A. AS A WHOLE IS SUPPORTIVE OF THIS MUSIC, AND YEAH, IT DOES SEEM TRENDY NOWADAYS.

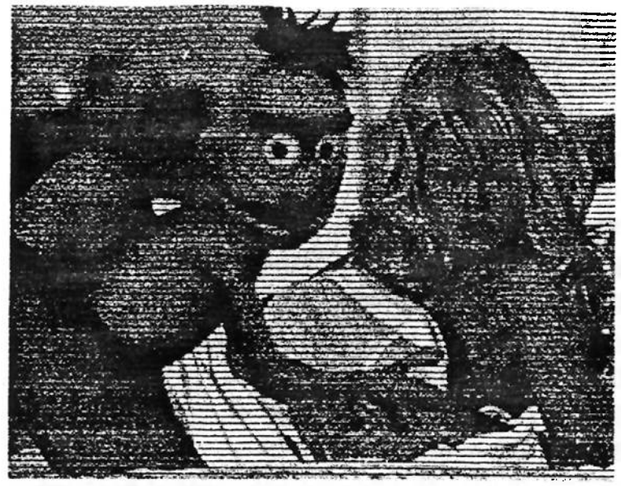
UN: I don't know if I should bring this up, but the guitar player from Divisia passed away recently. How are you guys taking this? I'm sure he is missed very much by his band mates as well as all of the fans of the band. Any words to remember him by?
A: "UNPREDICTABLE" WOULD BE A GOOD WORD TO DESCRIBE HIM. EVERYONE MISSES HIM...GOOD PERSON.

UN: Are you guys signed to Pessimiser now? Any more releases planned for this label? Or any releases at all planned for the future on any other labels? Do you guys help run Pessimiser? I noticed that all t-shirt orders are sent to your address, not Pessimisers.
A: WE'RE NOT "SIGNED", I THINK THAT'S MORE FOR HIP-HOP OR DEATH METAL BANDS. WE DON'T HAVE ANY RELEASES PLANNED RIGHT NOW. LETICIA USED TO HELP OUT WITH PESSIMISER WHEN IT WAS A ZINE.

UN: Is there anything you guys outright hate? You guys have any beefs about stuff that happens in everyday life? Racism, intolerance, you name it, it happens on a daily basis. Does any of this shit affect your lives? I suppose what I'm trying to ask, is what are your political beliefs.
A: WHAT I THIINK WE ALL MUTUALLY "HATE" IS THE SHIT MONEY THAT WORKING CLASS PEOPLE GET PAID, AND THE SHIT THAT INNER-CITY FOLKS HAVE TO DEAL WITH ON A DAILY BASIS.

UN: What do you guys think of death metal? This question may seem kind of out of left field, but I'm curious to know. Do power violence bands and death metal bands play together where you live? I guess I'm curious to know if grindcore kids are close minded towards metal kids.
A: I THINK IN THE EARLY 90'S THEY PLAYED TOGETHER BECAUSE THERE WAS NO OTHER MUSIC THAT WAS CLOSE TO "POWER-VIOLENCE", BUT NOW THE LINES BETWEEN DEATH AND H/C ARE KINDA BLURRED SO THERE ARE A BUNCH OF BANDS THAT ARE KINDA IN THE MIDDLE. I USED TO LIKE DEATH METAL, BUT IT ALL STARTED SOUNDING THE SAME.

UN: If you had the chance to tie someone down and slap them on the head with a fly-swatter for at least an hour, who would you choose? And please don't pick me for making up such stupid questions.
A: EVERY ATHLETE WHO THANKS "GOD" FOR THEIR ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE

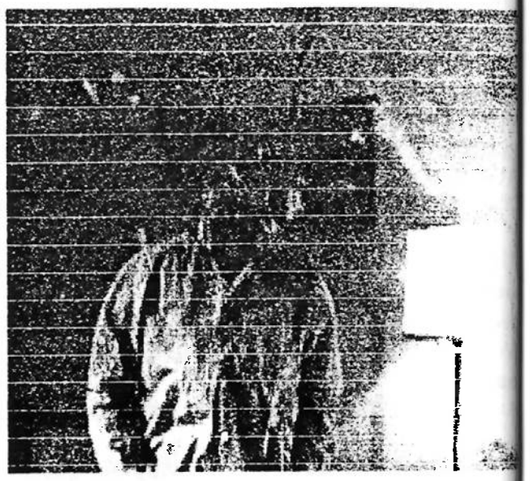


UN: Do you think that power violence is just an extension of punk rock? It is a lot more extreme and violent but the same attitude and intent are there. I think a lot of people forget that punk rock started all of this! REMEMBER YOUR ROOTS BOY!
A: ABSOLUTELY AN EXTENSION OF PUNK. LISTEN TO NECROS OR SEPTIC DEATH, THAT'S PRETTY "GRIND"

UN: This is an altogether lamezoid question, but who cares. What album in your collection would people be the most surprised to find? What are some of your favorite bands to rock out to?
A: SADE - GREATEST HITS. I LIKE LISTENING TO OLD METALLICA AND X WHEN I WANT TO "ROCK OUT".

UN: So before I make up even stupider questions and embarrass myself even more I think I'll end this interview. Thanks for the interview. Any final words before we put this thing to death?
A: YOU'LL BE BACK AT WORK SOONER THAN YOU KNOW IT.

ZOMBIE MOVIES



"They're coming to get you Barbara!" Yes, they are indeed coming to get Barbara, and they won't stop there! They'll tear away your flesh and feast on your intestines, and in general just have a great time with your innards until you rise and become one of them, one of the hunters, hunters that are out for the blood of the living. They are indeed coming to get you, and they are going to eat you!

This article will serve as an introduction to zombie movies. Not that any of you need one of course, but chances are, even if you are a fan of zombie movies, there are a few that you may have missed. Let's start with the most well known of all zombie movies: *Night of the Living Dead.* While not the first zombie movie of all time, it is the first modern zombie movie and has spawned a legacy that continued well into the 90's and even though zombie movies are not very common, it's influence is still seen today. The follow ups, *Dawn of the Dead* and *Day of the Dead*, are just as errie as the original, but added is much more gore. From the shotgun blast in Dawn of the Dead, to the many flesh-ripping scenes of Day of the Dead, both movies are blood filled and contain some of the best gore ever committed to film. If you want to get started on the right path with zombie movies, check out these three films. You also may want to check out the 1990 remake of NOTLD, although lacking in violence and gore, it is a great remake directed by none other then Tom Savini (effects man on the original three films).

What would a take about zombie movies be without mention of the Godfather of Gore, Lucio Fulci? Not very good! *Zombie: The Dead are Among Us* is what started it all for the Italians. What was produced to cash in on the success of *Dawn of the Dead*, turned into one of the best zombie movies the genre has ever seen. From the atmospheric soundtrack, to the massive amounts of bloodletting, this is the film that took the Italian community by storm and started an epidemic of zombie movies to come out. If you are looking for a gory zombie flick look no further! If you haven't already checked out this film, I suggest you indulge yourself in the gore, engulf yourself in the work of Fulci. Check out these films as well: *The Beyond*, *City of the Living Dead*, *House by the Cemetery*, and *Cat in the Brain*. If you are looking for the gory goods look no further.

Another name that will come up in horror movie circles is **Bruno Mattei**, one of the many Italian directors that cashed in on the zombie trend. His two most well known films are most definitely *Night of the Zombies* and *Zombi 3*. The latter was supposed to be directed by the late **Lucio Fulci**, but he pulled out of the project after only directing a few scenes. This is a shame because it is very gory film that has an atmosphere similar to *Dawn of the Dead*. *Night of the Zombies* pretty much works on a gore level only. The script is inane and the acting is just as bad. Anyway you look at it **Bruno Mattei** isn't very well known for one very good reason, his films are that great. But fans of zombie flicks should definitely check out *Zombi 3* and *Night of the Zombies*.

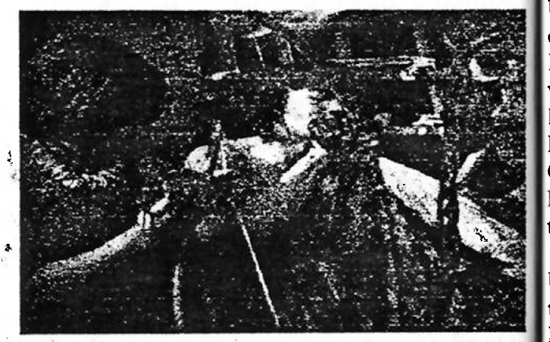
The goriest of all zombie movies is **Peter Jackson's** *Braindead.* The amount of blood spilled in this film is taken to the point of it being ridiculous. Anyone familiar with Jackson's work will know that this film contains that same slapstick attitude as most of his films. This is a welcome change due to the fact that most horror movies take themselves very seriously. The lawnmower scene is so incredibly gory, and all of the gore works well within the humorous nature of this film. If you are looking for gore and I mean gore, we are talking buckets of blood, look no further. This film is also called *Dead Alive*, but if you want to see the full uncut version track down a print of *Braindead.*

There are quite a few other series of zombie movies out there, three of the more well known are the *Return of the Living Dead* series, the *Blind Dead* Series, and the *Evil Dead* series. I'm not sure if the latter are totally zombie movies, but they have some similarities. Let's start with the Return... trilogy. This trilogy is kind of hit and miss. The first movie, *Return of the Living Dead*, is a very comical take on the zombie genre. It features very little gore, but makes up for this in humor. It definitely is worth checking out though. *Return of the Living Dead 2* is the movie of the trilogy that misses the mark. It just reeks of mainstream mediocrity and features very little gore and not enough humor to make it worth while. The best of all three is the third installment, which was directed by **Brian Yuzna**. This time around they left out a lot of humor and increased the blood letting! A lot of this movie has to be seen to be believe. The zombie that indulges in self-mutilation to satiate her hunger really makes the movie. Find the unrated version if possible.

The Blind Dead series may not be the best three films every made, but they offer a very original take on the zombie genre. Instead of the zombies being straight from the graves, the un-dead is this film are ancient knights that have risen from the grave. Never before have I seen a zombie riding a horse and it may sound corny, but it works. *Tombs of the Blind Dead, Return of the Blind Dead, Horror of the Zombies* and *Night of the Seagulls* may not be overly graphic, but they all contain tremendous atmosphere and offer a unique zombie viewing experience. Like most films of this nature the acting is not very good, but seeing zombies clad in armor and atop their steeds is what makes these films worth checking out. Definitely not your average zombie flicks!

I think I'll stop now and just list some of the many other zombie films out there that are worth checking out. There is so much out there that I could go on and on for pages and pages but last time I checked this wasn't Zombie 'zine! Anyway, here's a list of other zombie films for you to check out!

Nightmare City **(Umberto Lenzi directed this gorefest)**
Zombie '90: Extreme Pestilence **(S.O.V, low-budget gorefest)**
Raisins of Death **(Jean Rollin's strange take on zombies)**
Zombi Holocaust **(Cannibals and Zombies! Very gory!)**
Burial Ground **(Inane Italian flick filled with sauce!)**
The Video Dead **(Strange, but cool flick!)**
Garden of the Dead **(Prisoners turn zombies and get the Pigs!)**
Dellamorte Dellamore **(Best zombie film of the 90's)**
Killing Birds **(D'Amato's take on the zombie genre)**
The Dead Next Door **(Argh! Zombies!)**
I was a Teenage Zombie **(Troma rip-off! Cheese to the Extreme!)**
Let Sleeping Corpses Lie **(Gory film, effects by De Rossi!)**



BRAD MOORE INTERVIEW

UN: How did you get started at being an artist? Have you enjoyed drawing and painting from an early age?
BM: I was always the kid who could draw and could always outdraw anybody else. It became my identity and now it's my career. It's always been the one thing that I'm an expert at. I began drawing dinosaurs and monsters from age 5 or 6 on. Then it turned to girls, hotrods, dinosaurs and monsters at about age 12. I majored in art in college and have 3 degrees in drawing/painting. Though, chuckle, It's STILL girls, monsters, corpses, etc. HA!

UN: What is it about death metal artwork that intrigues you? What are some of the artists or album covers that got you started on the right track?
BM: Death metal art stuck me as being an extension of all of the things that had come before it. It certainly is in the same genres as Dungeons and Dragons or the comic book/horror/Heavy Metal magazine type of illustration. I was working in the world of underground (and mainstream) comic books when I got my first commission and to me it was a logical stretch to the next rung on the sky ladder. I brought to my early CD covers the same technique and approach that I painted a book cover in. I've been working now for as long as Pushead, Ed Repka, Dan Seagrave, Jeff Gaither and others and certainly they were colleagues of me and their work was an inspiration. My early inspirations were Roger Dean (the Yes Albums) and Dave Roe (Hair of the Dog by Nazareth).

UN: I know that you have worked with quite a few bands now. What are some of the bands and 'zines you have created artwork for?
BM: It's next to impossible to list them now. This is my 15th year as a pro illustrator. You have to remember , I started when I was right out of high school!! (Actually still in it!). bands would be Morphus Descends, Organic Infest, Elysium, Meat Shits, Divine Empire (new one coming!) Thorns of the Carrion, Nine Stitches, Kadath, Dawn, Internal Bleedings, Human Remains, Lezion, Arontoh. I can't think of anymore at the moment. Zines would include: Metal Core, Metal Mafia, Death Core, Putrefaction, Brutalized, I Spit on Your Grave, Gore Worm, Lobotomy, Death by Metal (Hello Paul!), Brutal Fuck, Cheese Factory, Robbing the Grave, and I can't dig any deeper into this box, so this'll have to suffice. There are a bunch of old one's too, 80's 'zines like Biatch, Art Flux, too many.

UN: What are some of your favorite metal bands? Are there any bands that you would jump at the chance to do their artwork? Any dream job?
BM: I love the gore metal bands! I'd love to do art for Obituary, Broken Hope, Fleshgrind, Goregasm, Deeds of Flesh and I just did art for Morbid Suffering, Ultra gore-hound, lusty grind-death! I also love the doom bands! I want to do art for Burning Witch, Penance, Internal Void, Electric Wizard, Winter, damn, again so many. Other death bands would be Sinutry, Mortal Decay, Mass Psycosis, it's goes on forever. I'll never feel that I have done enough work! This stuff just fuels the juice to keep going. Just go and go and go. Any dream job? I get to do my dream job! This is my job!

UN: I also read that you have drawn for seven comic book companies. What are some of the titles you have worked on? Who is you all time favorite comic book character and artist?
BM: Comics are my anchor, they were my starting point and they made my name known worldwide. Everybody's got to know that comix are circulated world-wide, much more then most metal coverage. Given the low profile state that metal is in these days. With comix, you get paid to do the work, you get paid when the books sell, and you get your work back to sell in galleries. Comix set me up to do my career! I'll forever return to comix when the chance allows. There are talks going on now for me and some of the other underground artists, to do somemoe comix! I'm ready! Here's a list, however partial, of comix my work appears in, or did the covers for: Legacy of Death #1, A Touch of Silk, a Touch of Leather #1, Wombs and Tombs #1, Shock Rock #1, Skull #1 vol#, Infidel (don't know which issue), Razor Swimsuit Special, Razor #4 (coloring only), Hades #1, Piggs & Stubb #1, Jeffery Dahmer, Biography of a Serial Killer, Necrotia, Cadaver #0, #1, #2 (3 issues).

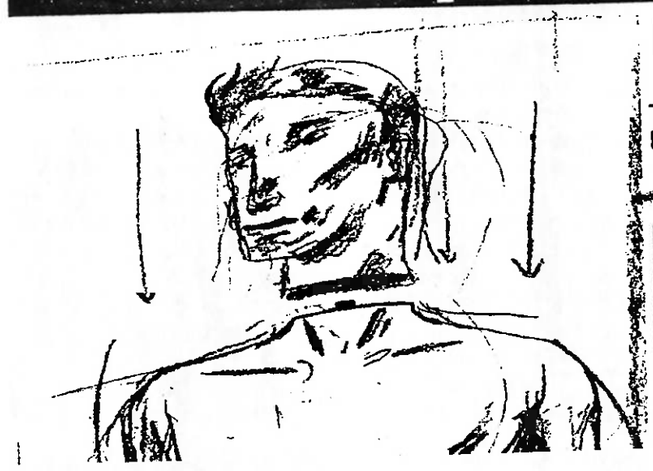
UN: Who do you consider some of the better artists within the underground? I think Russell Evans is a phenomenal artist.
BM: Jon216, Necrolord and yea, Russ Evans! He rocks! He and I have written a few times! I admire any artist who has their own style, gets out there and does the work and stays their own person. All of the above fill these

requirements. Don't forget Mark Riddick, he opened a lot of eyes with his work! Jon216 does have that H.R. Giger approach but his work nails you from across the room! Necrolord is very technically advanced and I admire that a great deal. Alfonzo "Art-gore" Ruiz has a definite style going on and we can't forget Juha Vorma, the Finlandish artist, he's dark as hell! A good bud too, though we've never partied.
UN: If a band wants artwork for their demo, what do they have to do? Roughly how much will it cost?
BM: Bands can write me and if it's out of their own pocket with no label support, my work can be had for $100, depending on what they want. Label supported bands can expect $300-500 for a color cover. I'm doing a stoner/doom cover soon, on fairly big label and it's going to be in the thousands, so it depends.

UN: Is being an artist a full time thing for you? Does it pay the bills?
BM: I am a full time artist, but that means that I do commercial art that I often cannot sign (often I don't want to). Often, I have no rights to, and often, I have to draw/paint an idea that I think sucks to the lowest level of hell, but, I do it! I have to support my girlfriend and her son from a previous marriage. I also do lecture tours, teach art classes and judge art shows. I'm doing architectural drawings for the art wing of a local school. I do 3-day seminars on art for a career, renaissance perspective, historical painters, etc. I have a full-career in art. Metal doesn't pay all the bills, but I don't do one thing not related to art. I also design murals (though, not lately).

UN: Tell everyone how they can get a hold of Brad Moore.
BM: Anyone can write me at:
Brad Moore
910 W.Sycamore #8
Carbondale, IL
62901
or phone: (618) 529-2122 (studio)
or fax: (618) 549-6544 (home)
All will be answered, just be patient!

UN: Thanks for the interview and best of luck in the future with your artwork.
BM: Thank you for the interest and for aiding me in reaching those who are interested in this stuff. Stay cool and be smart! We've got enough problems cases in the scene and in life overall. Go to a show and in an hour everyone in the crowd knows who the assholes are. Strive not to be the asshole. I thank you.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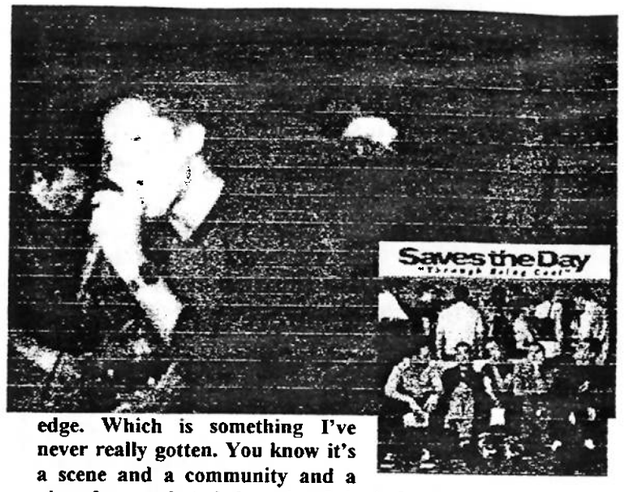
SAVES THE DAY

Interview with Bryan/Drums



UN: I just wanted to start off by telling you that I really dig your new cd. It really took me by surprise. It's not usually the type of music I usually listen to.
B: What type of stuff do you listen to?

UN: Metal usually. I'm really big into death metal. So it really surprised me.
B: Do you like Dillenger Escape Plan?

UN: Yea.
B: I love their new record, so much.

UN: So, how has the new been doing anyway?
B: It's been doing well. We sold like 2600 copies so far, it's been a month now. Now that's just Soundscan. Our label they work really hard to get it into a lot of chain stores, and stuff like that. We've got a company promoting us to college radio, and stuff like that. So we're pushing it really hard and we've been really pleased with the response so far.

UN: Do you guys consider yourselves a hardcore band?
B: No, we don't really. We consider ourselves pretty much to be a rock band. There's definitely a big hardcore influence, you can hear it, that's what were are rooted in. You can hear it more on the first record. It is definitely very much influenced by hardcore. But we kind of have a style that is all our own, which is sort of a mix of hardcore and straight up rock n roll.

UN: What do you guys think of hardcore these days? There are so many influences coming into it that it is kind of getting "weird."
B: When we play, most of our shows are with big hardcore bands. We played a bunch of shows with Snapcase, and stuff like that. There's a lot of hardcore that I really like, like Snapcase. But I feel like there's something about the scene, there are a lot of bands I think that aren't that great on their own, ya know? Kind of like they do something that they know people will listen to. In that respect I feel there isn't a very high degree of originality in the scene. The exception to that are the bands that are taking other influences. Bands that's roots are hardcore, but are talking other influences and kind of building on their sound and trying really hard to do that and make something new. Which is something that I think we are doing, or someone like the Get-Up Kids. They've sort of come out of the scene, but are really making their own sound and are getting a good response doing it. That's the stuff that I really appreciate.

UN: I think a lot of it is started by Victory. A lot of the bands are tough guy hardcore.
B: Right, I'm not into that stuff at all. Which is weird that we're on a label with bands like Ten Yard Fight and Floorpunch and stuff like that. Total tough guy, straight edge. Which is something I've never really gotten. You know it's a scene and a community and a place for people to belong, but I don't feel like the music is as musical as it could be.

UN: That's what I like about Equal Vision though. Every band is different. I don't think Converge sounds like you guys, etc.
B: Exactly. I actually really like all of the bands that are on Equal Vision right now. Like Bane, Converge. We actually just played a show with One King Down. They just got back together and I was pretty impressed.

UN: Does Equal Vision do a lot to push you guys?
B: Oh yea. That's actually were I am right now. Brian and Ted and I, drove up today. They do so much for us, like just as far as getting us interviews like this and doing ads, promotion, stuff like that. They work really hard for us. We are really, really happy with it,

UN: This is a pretty dumb question, but does anyone ever make a big deal about how young you guys are?
B: People are often surprised. I personally am kind of surprised. I'm 21 and I'm the oldest one in the band and we can a record, I think Through Being Cool is a really good record. The fact that we can put out a record like that. We recorded when I was 20 and you know we went 20 all the way down to 18. That we can do something like this when we are so young I think that's a pretty cool thing. People don't really make a big deal out of it. A lot of people think Chris, our singer, is actually a lot younger then he is. He's 19 and people think he's 16 because he looks pretty young. But, no, people don't make a big deal out of it. They are just kind of like surprised. Sometimes it's kind of like a novelty. Look at Saves the Day, they're so young, they're the youngest band. I feel that in a way it's almost a positive thing for us. Like look what we can do and look at how young we are.

UN: Then again it's not like you are that young anyway.
B: We've all been in and out of bands for like the past 5 years.

UN: It's not like you are 15. Umm...have you guys been

...touring yet?
B: Yea, we did the first tour before I was in the band. The first tour was last September. They actually started the first tour before "Can't Slow Down" ever came out. It came out half way through the first summer tour and that was the summer of '98, which was the tour with Bane. Then we did another last winter, December and January of '98/99 and then last summer we toured about 2 months in the US. Some of it we did with Farside, and we did the whole thing with Fastbreak. We're actually leaving for a mini-tour in a couple of days. We've been touring a lot. We actually have all dropped out of college, we're actually planning on touring nonstop for the next year.

UN: Are there any typical bands that you guys like to tour with?
B: What have we got. We've got lined up right, just to give you a good sense, we're doing about three weeks with Piebald. I don't know if you know them. They're on Big Wheel.

UN: I've never heard them.
B: They have more of an indy sound to them. Then we're doing 10 days with Snapcase, that's the end of January beginning on February. In the middle of February we are doing another ten days with Hot Water Music. Stuff like that. Right now, we just got a new booking agent and we're pushing to get some good opening act tours. With a band that will draw a lot of people who haven't seen us before, or haven't necessarily heard us before. We can try to make a fan. That's what we really want to do right now, increase our fanbase

UN: I don't know why, but this kind of popped into my head. Have you guys heard the new Grade record?
B: Yea.

UN: What do you think of it?
B: I have mixed feelings about it. I think the music is really good. I'm not so sure what I think of the vocals. It's weird. The music is pretty poppy, pretty much just like poppy hardcore. But then the vocals are so screamy. I don't know. I don't love it, but I can appreciate it. They're good musicians.

UN: For some reason it seemed like maybe he screamed just so they could get on Victory. But I'm probably wrong.
B: That could be possible. But I heard them before they were on Victory. I saw them about 2 years ago and they put on a good show. As far as bands from Canada go they are pretty good.

UN: Have you guys played in Canada at all?
B: I really don't know. We played a few shows in Canada. We played in Quebec City in Montreal and Toronto. We'll be up, definitely within the next year I'm sure. Once we get a good tour with a band that is big enough to draw in Canada I'm sure we'll go.

UN: One thing I wanted to ask was how the older material compared to the newer stuff, because I haven't heard it.
B: It's a lot more hardcore, more like fast beats. There's more of a formula to it. The new stuff is a lot poppier. The new stuff is more mid-tempo, I mean you've heard the new record. It's more rock then Can't Slow Down is.

UN: What do you guys think of emo? (I hide the bitter taste left in my mouth from saying this word)
B: It depends. I was just doing an interview about an hour ago with a girl from London and she asking me about emo. It's a tough work to talk about. I feel like you can't really think of any bands as emo. I think bands that some people might think of as emo is the Get-Up Kids, are an emo band. I just think of them as a rock band. I'm not really into emo, not really interested in that scene, or anything like that. I'm not interested in finding the next new big emo band. But if the music's good I'll listen to the band.

Saves the Day, 117 Viburnum Drive, Skillman, New Jersey 08558

HOSTILE REGRESSION RECORDS 1999

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CAUSE FOR EFFECT

Very few bands in the grindcore genre bring in outside influences. It tends to be either Napalm Death rip-offs, the California style of grind, or just the same old song and dance. Once in awhile a band will hit on something new and expand the grind genre a little while doing it. Cause for Effect offers a different take on things. Call it grind n' roll, call it rock n grind, any way you look at it, it's something new and it just plain rules! Read on to find out more about this great band!

UN: Give everyone a brief history for Cause and Effect.
Tuomo: Formed in summer 1992 by me (Tuomo - bass/growls only) and Ari - drums. We had some guitarists in the past and we played more or less metal oriented hardcore until 1994 we started to change our style slowly to the current direction.

UN: Did you guys intentionally try to play grindcore with a twist? You guys remind me of the Dead Kennedy's mixed with a grind band! Great combination!
T: Thanks! It was some sort of natural decision to try that sort of mixing and we founded it very interesting. We still had a fast and angry grindcore background but also an original way to express our music. Nowadays we have moved more to jazzy stuff and more rhythm changes but still of course a lot of groovy riffs together with a very fast grind beat.

UN: Tell us about your split 3" cd with Utter Bastard. How did the pairing come about? Did Utter Bastard contact you or vice versa?
T: It was an idea by small Finnish DIY label Tylyt Levyt (nowadays Hostile Regression Records) and of course we agreed. Label's original idea was Spazz /CFE split but because of lack of time and material Spazz didn't take part in it so they decided to put UB with us and I think it's great. Two good bands from the different corners of the world in same recording... UB contacted us once, I tried couple of times but they never responded...

UN: You guys seem to have the worst luck. Your debut full length was supposed to come out on Eccocentric, but they have called it quits. Do you think you'll ever find a label to release it? Tell us about the LP.

T: Originally it was supposed to come out on Hostile regression records. We waited and waited until they said "sorry guys no money to release it" then we had to find another label and Eccocentric said yes but now it seems that they'll never put the CD out because we haven't heard nothing for months.

CD was recorded Sept 98 and it contains 32 songs within 33 minutes very much like our material in split 3" but even faster and tighter and better. I recorded both guitar and bass and it took 4 days at the studio.

I think that there's some honest labels who wants to release original and fresh music.

UN: Besides the split cd, have you guys released anything? What do you have available?
T: Right now we have available Cause For Effect / Onanizer split 7" EP which is released by Machismo Productions from Australia. It contains 6 tracks from the full length CD. Upground records released Nuclear Blues Tape EP in 1997 and I think it's sold out. Also we are on some compilations and our friend released CFE / Noise waste split 7" in 1995 but on that recording our style was hc/metal crossover.

UN: What topics do your lyrics deal with? Are they political in nature like most grind?
T: T: Mostly our lyrics are "socio political" but also some nonsense. We don't preach nor tell what people should do. I just write about things which born thoughts in me.

I guess that most grind nowadays are more into gore/splatter/porno stuff than sensible lyrics.

UN: What's the scene in Finland like? Is there a lot of support for smaller bands? Does the scene have any trends?
T:Hardcore/grindcore scene is small but active. Lots of gigs and bands. Latest trend was sXe but now I think it's turning more into American style of hardcore. Kids love it. Of course there's a lot of traditional. scandi -82 / crust bands but they seem to live very short time. Grind scene is : CFE, Harsh, Irritate, Furnace, Rotten Sound so it's small but all bands are very good.

UN: I have a question about the song James. Is it based on a true story? Or is it just something that has happened quite often? What is this song about?
T: James was a fictional story about teenager who takes some -isms too seriously, I have seen it within the scene and there's always some "punk police" who try to set some "rules". In that time when I wrote James' lyrics I was pretty amused about those who think they're so right.

UN: This question doesn't have much of a point, but are you into gore flicks at all? What are you favorite movies?
T: Gore isn't our cup of tea. My favorite movies are usually Hollywood stuff like Matrix, it was good. I have open taste and I don't watch movies very often so mainstream is enough for me...

UN: What is it like living in Finland? Is it a hard country to live in? How do you think it compares to live in America?
T: Finland is a rich western country so living here is very easy. I find Finland much safer then U$A and this is my home. I don't know much about Canada but I have a feeling that it's not so crazy as USA. I have traveled around the Europe and most of western countries seems to be quite much alike.

UN: After reading your lyrics to the song In The Woods, I wanted to ask you this. Do you think we have become too dependent on machines? Do you think the human race takes nature for granted?
T: White man takes nature for granted. It exploits it in a very harsh way and seems to think that we can do what we want no matter what consequences, it makes me sad. We have machines what we "need" but main problem is shopping and overwhelming consuming which causes worst effects to nature. Every year it's getting worse but leaders don't seem to do real decisions how to protect the rest of nature

UN: Do you have any releases/splits planned for the future?
T: Of course we have plans but most of record labels don't want to fulfill them:). Seriously, we have just recorded brand new material and we'll start to seek some release for it as a MCD. It contains 20 songs within 14:18 minutes and it's only bass/drums/growls, more jazzy, more power violence stop'n'go stuff. faster, better, perfect record!

UN: Thanks for the interview. End this anyway you want.
T: Thanks for the interview! All the best for you and your doings! People feel free and contact **cfe@iobox.fi**
Website: http://members.xoom.com/cfe and snail mail

Tuomo Hohtari, Tammelan puistokatu 20 A 14, 33100 Tampere, Finland/Europe

RAZORBACK RECORDS

Interview with Jill Girardi

UN: What led to the formation of Razorback Records? Why did you decide to release only gore grind and brutal death metal?
J: Razorback was formed when I left my old label, Mortal Coil Records, and my new partner Billy Nocrea left his old label, Be a Freak Records. We both had the same ideas and ambitions for a label, as well as for our personal lives, so it made sense that we would work together. We decided to release only gore grind and brutal death metal because we wanted a really focused label. We wanted to stick with the type of music each of us liked best.

UN: What stuff has already come out on Razorback and what future releases are planned? Are you looking for more bands?
J: So far we've released two comp cds, called Gore is Your Master and A-Hog Wild Tale of Terror (clever, huh?) and we've also released ENGORGED's "Death Metal Attack 2" cd-they're a Grind/Death metal band from Portland, Oregon. We're just getting ready to press a full length cd from MACHETAZO. They're a brutal Death/Grind/Splatter band from Spain. The cd will be out in the very beginning of 2000. Also in 2000, we're gonna re-release Catasexual Urge Motivation's "Encyclopedia of Serial Killers" cd. It'll have all new vocals and packaging, and bonus tracks. And finally we're gonna release a cd from the Australian Death/Grind perverts, Intense Hammer Rage. That's what we have planned for now. We've decided we're going to have three releases a year. One in the beginning of the year, one during the summer, and one at the end of the year. No more, no less. We don't want to be one of those labels who release ten things at once, because we want to give each band the individual attention they deserve. A label who releases multiple cds at once is obviously only serving itself-they can't possibly promote each individual band so much that band benefits from it as well. With Razorback, we are going to do as much for the bands on our label as we do for ourselves. We're not looking to exploit anyone, especially the killer bands we work with. We're extremely picky about the bands we sign. We wont ask a band to do a cd with us unless every single aspect about them is perfect. We want brutal, sick gore bands of course, and their music has to really affect us in a big way. You know the type of band that when you hear their song, it gets your adrenaline pumping? Check out some songs from the Machetazo 10" on Judgeworthy Records, and you'll see why we signed them. OR check out the song "Engorged" on the Engorged cd. All of our bands have to hit us hard like that. But that's not all we're looking for in a band. We won't work with any egotistical assholes who gives us a list of demands before they sign with us. It's cool if a band suggests things they'd like, but the offer we make them in the beginning is almost set in stone. If they don't like it, then best of luck looking for a bigger label who can meet their demands. We make the best offer we possibly can to each band, we're not holding anything back. Because if we make the offer, that means we really, really want the band on our label. If they demand more, well, there's not much more we can give them. Every band gets the same offer from us, no one is treated better then another on Razorback. And Billy and I bust our asses promoting the releases. A band could definitely do worse then sign with us-we give them all the promotion and distribution we can, plus we give them a really big portion of their own cd (unlike some labels who barely give out enough copies for each member of the band to have one). We also will only work with bands who have the same attitude towards the Underground as we do-that is, that it's a way of life. Damn, sorry, this answser got so long.

UN: Let's talk about the 'zine for a bit, give everyone the lowdown on I Spit on Your Grave?
J: I Spit on Your Grave was something we did just for fun, to introduce the label to everyone, and support some really killer bands in the underground. It's not really a webzine now, we just put interviews on the Razorback Records website so we cans still support as many bands as possible. We might do another printed issue is 2000, but we're not sure.

UN: What do you think are some of the better mags out in 'zine land? Is there anything you don't like about any 'zines?
J: Most of the 'zines I really like these days are foreign. My favorites are Putrid Dysentry, Liquid of Life, Unholy Terror, Master of Brutality, From Beyond, Bonecrunch, etc. The thing I don't like about 'zines, American 'zines, really, is that they all look the same, all feature the same bands, and all depend on ad sales to survive. There's no honesty in a 'zine that has to depend on a label to buy ad space. They have to kiss ass in reviews and do interviews with that label's shitty bands in order to fund their own 'zines. Also, most of the 'zines from America today have no idea what grind is! But there are some good 'zines from the US, don't get me wrong. I really like Hexbender's article on nature, I like Hellfrost, Brutalized, Metal Core and a number of others.

UN: To be a true supporter of the underground, is there anything special that you have to do? Not to put any rules on the scene, but the people who complain about it are usually the ones who don't help in anyway.

J: Each person can be a true supporter in a completely different way. What one person does to support the scene may not be support at all by another person. For instance, I hate the NY scene, and I refuse to go to shows around here. I prefer to support bands in the scene by interviewing them, putting them on comp cds, distributing their releases, spreading their ads and sometimes even releasing full length cds by them. I think I do more for the Underground then a lot of people. The exposure these bands get through Razorback is tremendous. But the people in NY that I've snubbed say that I'm not supporting the scene at all because I don't go to shows. They make it a point to tell everyone that THEY are the biggest scene supporters, because they go to every single NY show. I think I'm right, they think they're right. I say that by not going to shows, it's not that I'm not supporting the Underground-I'm just not supporting assholes who I can't stand. In my eyes, MOST of the NY scene is filled with egotistical Rap fans who don't deserve my support. Assholes don't get any help from us. I would say to anyone in the Underground-don't support people who are just out to take advantage of you. Instead, pick and choose the people you help by their attitudes. If they're cool people, chances are they'll do just as much for you in return. If they're assholes, they'll just use you for what they can get out of you. Weed them out by not supporting them, and make the Underground pure again!

UN: I have to ask this, did you honestly like my old 'zine? I thought everyone hated it! Oh me oh my! Engulfed in Gore!
J: Yes, of course I really liked your old 'zine! Do you doubt my honesty, Mike? Ha ha. No, seriously, how can you not love a 'zine with an awesome name like Engulfed in Gore? One of the things I liked best about it was that, just like Razorback, there was a focus on certain types of bands that you featured. I noticed you are doing the same thing with UNBOUND, which rules!

UN: Who do you think are some of the most over rated bands in the Underground? What bands do you think people should take notice of? Any new bands make you raise one eyebrow and yell out this kicks ass?
J: I plead the fifth on this question, Mike. Though I will tell you that almost any band from NY with the exception of Immolation, Pyrexia and Suffocation (RIP), Scrape and one or two others are highly over rated. Some bands I definitely think people should take notice of are Machetazo, Impaled, Engorged, Intense Hammer Rage, Drawn and Quartered, Gorerotted, Fleshtized, Carved in Flesh, Vastion, Spinecast are some really good bands. As for bands that made me yell out, I'm gonna have to say Machetazo again because they just totally blew my mind the first time I heard them.

UN: Are there any cds in you collection that you would be embarrassed to show anyone? I'm sure you don't only listen to metal!
J: Yea, there are some cds in my collection that I'd rather not let the public find out about. But not many. I have mostly death metal cds, some really old metal that I listened to when I was younger (Helloween, Iron Madien, Manowar, Voi Vod, etc.) I don't know if you consider it embarrassing or not, but I do have every Queen album, and I also like a lot of Opera, like Monserrat Caballe, Sarah Brightman, Andrea Bocelli, etc. I like soundtracks a lot too, I have a big collection of soundtracks from certain movies and games.

UN: If someone unfamiliar with death metal asked you to describe the music what would you say? Or would you be too busy beating them up because they don't listen to metal?
J: I just had this problem. I had to write a paper for one of my business courses, describing a business plan. I decided to use Razorback, since it was easier then making one up from scratch. Describing the Underground was hell. I don't think I did it well enough. I guess if anyone ever asks me again, I'll just say, "If you have to ask, you'll never know."

UN: Are you into horror/gore flicks? I know you love Jet Li. What are some movies that get your goat?
J: Billy is the true horror/gore freak. There's not any kind of horror/porn/thrash flick that he doesn't know about. All you have to do is name the title of a movie and even if he hasn't seen it, he'll tell you what year it was made, who directed, produced and starred in it, what the reviews were on it, and the entire plot. Some favorites are Gates of Hell, Zombie, House by the Cemetery, New York Ripper, I Spit on Your Grave, Bad Taste, Deadbeat at Dawn, The Beyond, etc. Yes, I'm really into Martial Arts films, and I'm a huge Jet Li fan, as well as a fan of Anita Mui, Yuen Biao, Jackie Chan, Maggie Cheung, Rosamond Kwan, etc. I know it's cheese, but I really like Billy Blanks a lot too. Some of my favorite movies are New Legend of Shaolin (does that little kid kick ass or what?), Fist of Legend, Tai Chi Master, Armour of God, Burning Paradise, My Father is a Hero, Thunderbolt, Once Upon a Time in China, Drunken Master 2, etc. I like American films too, the ones that are not even really MA films, but have my favorite actors in them, like Rush Hour, Supercop, Mr. Nice Guy, Rumble in the Bronx, Lethal Weapon 4, etc. I am also a really big World War 2 buff (no, I fucking can't stand Nazism) and I like to watch as many movies as I can find on the subject, and read any books I can find on it, too. Some of the best movies are Schindler's List, Apt Pupil, Life is Beautiful, etc.

UN: This is a pretty lame question, but I am interested to know. Are there any stereotypes that go along with being a girl into death metal? Do you think some girls are giving true followers of metal a bad name?
J: It's a combination/ Of course there are girls who give true metal heads a really bad name, but then there are always guys who see a girl's name of a flyer and immediately write her asking for a picture. I don't think guys take girls in the Underground seriously. I don't know if that's slutty girls' faults or not, I just know that no matter how hard I work in the scene, there's always going to be some assholes who writes me and tells me he's "hot, horny, and looking for a wild time." (that's an actual quote from a letter I got once.) It's not going to chase me out of the underground, though. I usually just ignore these comments.

UN: What has kept you motivated to stay active in the underground? Did you ever think of leaving it behind?
J: Billy keeps me motivated to stay in the Underground. Every time I think I've had enough, and I just want to say, "fuck it!", Billy reminds me that this is really where I want to be, and that we really do have a promising future with Razorback.

UN: DO you like keeping it hidden that you are addicted to Zelda and the "geeknet"? Are you going to kick my ass for saying this? I'm addicted to Scooby Doo and Elvis! Yes, Elvis!
J: Considering Dea from Metal Mafia just told me a story about someone in the Underground who ate human shit to win a contest, I don't think there's any reason why I should be embarrassed for liking video games, nor you for liking Scooby Doo and Elvis!

UN: That's all I can think of. Spank you very much for doing this. Any final thoughts?
J: OOOOO-OOVER HEEEERREEEE SHAAAAGGGYY!

(SEE ENGORGED AD FOR ADDRESSES)

snapcase

UN: Let's start off by talking about the new album. Are you guys pleased with the way the album turned out?
Daryl: Yea I think so. Ya know, it's always in between. In the time in between the recording of an album and the release of the album, I always have mixed feelings about the record. After it comes out and we start touring and playing the songs, your probably expecting a better feel towards what the album means. You play it live and see how it goes.

UN: Is there a concept behind the title of the album, "Designs for Automation"?
D: Basically Designs for Automation is about creating your own design as an individual. Make your life more adventurous and exciting so to speak, ya know, live your life a little bit more and break out of that sit on the couch and watch tv. Keeping at the dreams that come along with a lot of risks and challenges that you are afraid of. Basically just becoming ready to face all of those risks and challenges and go after these dreams that are only special to you and that other people don't understand at all. Things that are genuinely your dreams.

UN: How do you guys feel about the hype that surrounds your new cd? I'd assume that it's safe to say you don't take any of this for granted.
D: I don't know. We are pretty a pretty down to earth group so a lot of this stuff we just think is funny or silly, but It's good when there is expectations, still when there is people anticipating the new record. We're just excited to get it out and start touring. That's basically what it comes down to. Whether, we're not really concerned with the hype about us, or breaking it big or anything like that. If it happens, it happens and we'll go along. But it's not something we're concerned or worried about.

UN: Do you guys think that each album you release is an extension of the previous album? Do you guys always try to bring in something new?
D: Without a doubt. We think it's really important for a band to not repeat itself from album to album. This record is definitely different from the last. At the same time it still sounds like Snapcase and it still think it's a compliment to the last album really well. You could listen these albums one after another and they flow together well and ya know production wise this record is a bit better.

UN: What is it about the band that appeals to people? What do you think made Progression Towards Learning such a well received album?
D: I think that we had done so much touring up to that point, the release of that album, and along with the release of the album. But we had never released a record that captured the energy of the live show, and finally that record did. The studio, we had a really raw sounding recording, and the songs were played at a live tempo. I don't know, all of the people that had seen us live hopefully will pick that up and work that around that it's a big step for the band in terms of our previous releases living up to our live show.

UN: Did any of you guys ever expect the album to sell as much as it did?
D: No, not at all. We never really have much of any expectations. We were just happy kind of doing what we were doing up to that point, we weren't like oh yea this record will sell way more. We just thought the next record was another record, we'll put it out, we'll tour a bit, keep going and it did much better then we expected.

UN: Have you received any offers from any larger major labels?
D: Yea, especially right before this record. We met with a lot of different labels actually. We learned a lot about how different labels work at different levels and it was really interesting. I think even if a band is in a position that they have different labels coming up to them, I think it's smart to kind of see what they are offering and what they're up to. Kind of let you know that you are worth a little bit and let's you know a little bit more about how things work out there and how your band could be promoted. You don't have to leave with all of it, you don't have to take all of the offers. You can take what you learn, and add it to what you already know and take it to the label you want to be on. That's kind of what we did with Victory. This label offered us this, and they said they could do this kind of promotion and we thought that was cool, we think you should do this kind of promotion with this record. Victory was willing to work with us on all of these things, so it's what we did.

UN: Snapcase seems to be about change. Do you think a lot needs to be changed to make this world a better place to live in?
D: Yea, but like I just said it comes from within first and then expands from there. People don't have a strong belief in themselves or based within themselves, there is no substance and there's nothing there. I believe in change, but I also believe that people need to think more. Truly you can come out, especially in the hardcore scene, and have real concrete, obvious lyrics about how sexism is bad, or how racism is bad, and all these things, and all these things. It seems really easy, the messages has to run a little deeper then that. Otherwise people are just creating messages without thinking about them. That's what Progression Towards Unlearning was all about. You have to realize that there are a lot of things within you that you were brought up with, that you need to think about and basically unlearn. This unlearning process with allow you to see things in a new light and understand how other people think. You can't understand sexism, until a guy can kind of forget a lot of the things that he knows about being a guy, and start learning what life is like for a woman. The same thing with people from different cultures, different sexual beliefs, it's about everything. I just think people need to think a little bit different then they are, and advance the scene and say messages that provoke more thought.

UN: Music is usually about conveying a message. Is there any message that Snapcase tries to get across?
D: Yea, our general message is one that you don't often get from bands too often. Mainly, think for yourself, and I mean, for instance we're a band and we don't know what's best for others, only they do. All we can do is send some ideas that provoke thought. If only our records could provoke more thought people could do a lot of things thinking, about really knowing themselves as an individual. That's the things we try to teach people before they start subscribing to bigger causes and different ideologies that are out there, different groups, social political groups. Before you start, you need to know yourself as an individual. A lot of our fans are younger, younger teenagers, ya know they are at an impressionable age and if you maybe strengthen their happiness in themselves, it comes back to you.

UN: How did you guys feel about the tour with the Deftones?
D: Going into the tour, I think when we go into a tour and we're not the headliner we don't know what to expect and so we're kind of cautious. That tour turned out to be really fun and the Deftones were really down to earth guys. They were just an amazing band, they played really hard. I don't know, it was an awesome learning experience and a really cool tour. We were able to play to some new people, there were some things we didn't like about the tour, ya know but it was different from the tours that we had been used to and that's what made it interesting. Of course Quicksand was on the tour with us. Quicksand is one of our biggest influences and it was really cool to be on the road with them as well.

UN: How was it playing the Warped Tour?
D: Warped tour was the same thing too. Going into it we didn't know what to expect, we though oh it's going to be full of rock stars and people that were demeaning to us and stuff like that. But it wasn't like that at all. People were really cool and supportive of our band. That tour went really well and we got to meet a lot of new people.

UN: Do you have any tours hooked up for this year yet? Are you planning on touring as much as you can to push the new cd?
D: Umm...yea we're pretty much gonna cover everywhere we can. But I don't know often we are gonna be going out on 6 or 7 week tours straight. I think we're going to break the touring and try to be home a little bit more often between tour dates so we can stay healthy and keep touring fresh. Once you've been playing for 6 or 7 weeks, and you get into the later weeks it's very tiresome. Better to break it up.

UN: Is there an ideal place you'd like to set Snapcase end up? Do you want to take this as far as it will go?
D: I don't know. As long as the band is fun and the band is progressing, that's as long as I want to keep going. If that stops, it's time for us to end it . Right now, we're still going and it's still fun. We have a lot of ideas still for the music, so we're going to keep going.

To Review or Not to Review?

I was seriously debating on whether or not I was going to include any reviews in this issue of Unbound. Every 'zine has reviews, whether it's album reviews, demo reviews or 'zine reviews. I find it silly that most 'zines seem to exist just to get free copies of CD's, CD's that if you spent your own money on chances are you wouldn't like them one bit. My last issue featured bands that I was first and foremost a fan of, bands that I actually paid for the CDs. How many of you 'zine editors are giving honest reviews? You may say you are, but maybe the fear of being axed from a label's mailing list is getting the better of you. I have to admit that I receive promos and I am very grateful for this, but my no means does this mean I like everything I receive. The labels don't really put pressure on you, and I'm sure what they want is an honest opinion. Do you think the people at the label like everything they release? (How could Earache like the new Napalm Death releases?) If you give a bad review and they drop you from the mailing list, fuck 'em. If they are that close minded and arrogant why would you want to have anything to do with them?

So despite my second thoughts of having reviews in this issue, I decided to include cd and demo reviews only. I am not going to review 'zines because I don't want to make any one 'zine seem better then the next. Sure some have a better layout, or the writing is better, but if they are all in it to help out the scene, then they have my total support. Whether they are on newsprint, xeroxed, or on toilet paper, if you are helping the scene then you have my complete support. So I'll say this, quality is important for some things, but if we're all in this for the same reason, helping promote extreme music and in some cases show our political stances, then every little thing helps. I say fuck you to everyone with an inflated head in this scene. Your jock mentality should have been left at high school. Instead of reviewing 'zines, I've just made a list of 'zines that I either read myself or have heard a lot about. 'Zines are what keeps this scene alive, they are it's life blood.

Metal Core
PO BOX 622
Marlton, NJ.
08053-1109
USA

Metal Mafia
PO Box 5101
Fostoria, OH.
44830-5101
USA

Worm Gear
PO Box 426
Mayfiled, ML
49666
USA

Earsplit
PO Box 142
142 Congers, NY
109020-0142
USA

Unrestrained
3150 Spring Creek Cres.
Missisauga, ON.
L5N 4SN
CANADA

OBSCURE
P.O. Box 29061
Thunder Bay, ON
P7B 6P9

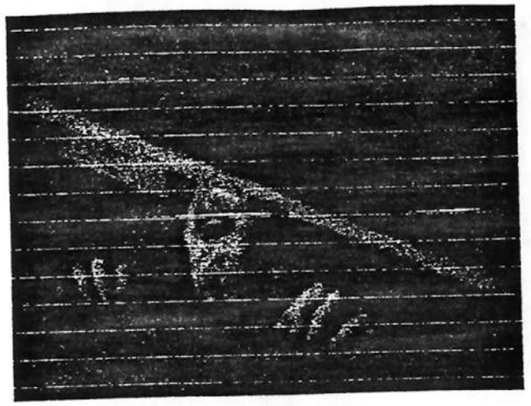
Spiked Impalement
C/o Dave Arnett
329 Terrace Dr.
Pauls Valley, OK
73075
USA

Brutalized
706 E. Marrion St.
Arlington Heights, IL
60004
USA

Word of Mouth
P.O. Box 416
Devault, PA
19432
USA

Wild Rag
W.Whittier Blvd
PO Box 3302
Montebello, CA
90640
USA

Sociopathic Despair
PO Box 100
Troy, IN
47588
USA



REGURGITATED REVIEWS

All albums reviewed are rated on a scale between 0-5. Here's a basic rundown of what every score means.

0 out of 5: An album only your mom would like!
1 out of 5: Showing signs of life, but still pretty rotten
2 out of 5: Dead and slightly below average
3 out of 5: Average, showing signs of life, but flawed
4 out of 5: Damn near perfect
5 out of 5: A perfect 4 fingers down the throat vomit!

Bane-It All Comes Down to This
(Equal Vision, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

In a time when people are calling Blink 182 punk rock, I'm glad their still exists bands like Bane. Bands that know the roots of punk and play hardcore that is as vicious as a combat boot to the teeth Old school hardcore that is somewhat in the same vein as new H20, albeit a great deal better. The lyrics are well thought out, the music rages, and the vocals have an old school hardcore vibe. Combine this with some stellar packaging and you have an all out attack of the senses. Bane began as a side project of Converge, but the band has turned into it's own beast. This is some of the best hardcore I have heard it quite a long time It's all about unity, my friends.

Saves the Day-Through Being Cool
(Equal Vision, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

I really wasn't expecting to like this. Melodic stuff like this usually makes me want to vomit, but this cd really struck a nerve with me. Maybe it has to do with the lyrics relating to what I'm going through right now, or maybe it's just really catchy. Either way Saves the Day offer the goods. I really can't call this anything but music for teenagers. If you are a teenager you will definitely identify with the band. Musically it's a pretty melodic affair. Sometimes fast, sometimes slow, but always melodic and catchy as fuck! This won't appeal to any of you metalheads I suppose. But if you are into melodic punk rock, I won't call it emo, you should check this out! It is catchier then herpes and there isn't a stinker in the 14 songs on this cd!

Rotting Christ-Sleep of the Angels
(Century Media, 1999)
(3.5 out of 5)

This band has certainly come along way from their primitive black metal beginnings. They do not resemble the band they once were in anyway. They even use their real names now. This is pretty similar to A Dead Poem. The music is melodic and slow with a varied vocal approach. The Venom and Possessed influences have given in to Iron Maiden and European influences. So the song writing is much better now and the band actually knows how to play their instruments, but I still love their earlier material, no matter how sloppy and under produced it was. If you dug A Dead Poem you will dig this. It's a good listen.

Evoken-Embrace the Emptiness
(Elegy Records, 1998)
(5 out of 5)

The soundtrack for suicide! Slow, and I mean, slow doom metal is what Evoken play. I don't mean Black Sabbath stoner doom, this is the real deal. This CD is best experienced when you are completely relaxed and not pre-occupied with anything. The first few times I listened to it I was laying on my bed and the CD kept my attention for it's entire duration. Some people don't like slow music, and honestly I am a fan of very extreme and fast music too. You just have to realize that it doesn't need to be a million miles an hour to be extreme. I can't really think of any comparisons, but then again I am new to this type of stuff. This is could be best described as the soundtrack for death, despair, and all things that let no light shine through.

Thy Infernal-Satan's Wrath
(Moribund, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

Even if this completely sucked I would still commend them on having some killer artwork. fortunately they don't suck. Thy Infernal play vicious old school black metal that hacks and slashes through seven tracks, one of which is a cover of "Black Magic." Black metal really isn't my cup of tea (or blood!) but this band is an all out attack of the senses. Although this is fairly filled with blasting the tempos do change and the guitar riffing is melodic at times. Not happy sounding melody either, this is old school melody, pops! If you like black metal somewhat reminiscent of Dark Funeral check this out! Did I mention they were from the US?

S.O.D.-Bigger Than the Devil
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

If you take into account that thousands of crappy bands are getting back together, it seems that atleast one good band would have get back together Well, seeing as though S.O.D. is back together I guess we'll still have to wait for a good band to reform! HA! Just joking, this cd fucking rocks my sorry ass into oblivion. Speak English or Die was good, maybe even great, but this is FUCKING GREAT! I think it's the newfound grind influence that really does it for me. S.O.D. with blasting! A dream come true! Billy's singing is a lot more powerful too I think, but this may be because of an improved production. So I say fuck Satan. I've got my S.O.D.! What you find on this cd is 25 songs that are much cooler then you! From the sing along choruses of Kill the Assholes, to the stupidity of Frankenstien and his Horse, this is S.O.D. at it's finest! This cd has been out for awhile so if you don't own it yet, you are going to die I'm afraid. So do yourself a favor run out right now and pick it up. You know you want to.

Ratos De Poras-Carniceria tropical
(Alternative Tentacles, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

So I may not know what the songs are about or even how to pronounce the band name, but one thing I do know is that this CD rocks my world! 13 tracks of varied and chaotic Brazilian hardcore punk are found on here. The vocals switch between a deep guttural roar and raspy screams. Either way, RDP pounds the songs home with shit-loads of authority. The band does have a few metal moments and also even has some scratching on a track. The production of Billy Anderson really brings out the chaotic sound of this band. Every little thing shines through while maintaining a very raw and live sounding production. I wasn't a fan of the production work Anderson did with Brutal Truth but his job here is definitely commendable. If you are looking for some original hardcore punk look no further.

B.G.K-A Dutch Fest: The Complete...
(Alternative Tentacles, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

B.G.K. are a new band to me, which is definitely a bad thing. I wish I had heard these guys a long time ago. This cd is the complete works of the band, their discography. It contains the Jonestown Aloha LP, the White Male Dumbinance LP, the Nothing Can go Wrogn LP and a few compilation tracks. Raging hardcore punk ala the early 80's is what B.G.K. spit forth. There definitely is a common ground between the Dead Kennedys and B.G.K. but that is the only comparison that comes to mind. I'm not even sure which band was out first though. The booklet contains all of the lyrics as well as a write-up about the history of the band. If punk bands of today sounded like this I would be proud to listen to newer bands. The melodic mish-mash of the late 90's is too far removed from the early days of punk. If you are into the old school and you want to get a great cd of old school hardcore, give this cd a try. You may be pleasantly surprised by what you hear.

Flesh Grinder-S.P.L.A.T.T.E.R.
(Lofty Storms, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

Splatter! Not to be confused with the American band Fleshgrind, Flesh Grinder are a gore/grind band from the shores of Brazil! As with almost all gore/grind the comparison to Carcass pops up, but Flesh Grinder are by far one of the better bands in the genre, taking the classic sounds of Symphonies of Sickness to a new level of sickness. Another thing I've noticed about this genre is that I have no idea what any of the songs are about. What the hell does "Adverse Effects seen in Immunologically Compromised Hosts" mean? Anyone? Forensic lyrics aside, this is some raging death metal with a surprisingly clear production. Great songs, great production and great packaging make this a cd all of you psychos do not want to pass up on.

One Last Wish-1986
(Dischord, 1999)
(3 out of 5)

I wasn't sure exactly what to expect from this CD. I was either expecting it to be early DC hardcore, or a Fugazi type band. This does remind of Fugazi quite a bit, but maybe with more of an indie-rock feel to the whole affair. It's melodic, it's catchy and it doesn't do much for me I'm afraid. By no means is it a bad cd, it just really doesn't keep my interest. If you are a fan of Fugazi you should probably look into getting this cd.

Fugazi-Instrument Soundtrack
(Dischord, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

Even though I like Minor Threat a great deal more then I like Fugazi, I have always given credit to Fugazi for being one of the most original bands out there. I have no idea how to describe their music (post-hardcore art rock?) and I won't even try to describe it. This cd is a soundtrack to the Fugazi movie called Instrument. It features mostly outtakes and demo versions of either old songs, or rare tracks. I believe a few songs are unreleased as well. I would have to say that this cd is for die-hard fans only. If Fugazi is new to you I suggest you check out one of their older releases first. Either their debut, or In on the Kill-Taker could serve as a good introduction.

206 Records-The Unpunk Album
(206 Records, 1998)
(1 out of 5)

I was almost expecting this to be a punk compilation, but last time I checked I don't call powder-puff pop music punk! Well that may be a little exaggerated, because I do like a few of the bands that get labeled as skate punk, but most of these bands are too similar to other bands and really aren't anything special. After awhile you start to think that every band shares members and just switch singers every once in awhile. The best song on here is the track from Pulley. I have always been a fan of the first couple of Ten Foot Pole albums and this band shares the same singer. So, yea this is a melodic "punk" album with some ska and more rock n roll stuff thrown in. Oh yea! There is a band called Tripwire on here that sounds so much like Ten Foot Pole that I was checking the insert to see if indeed it was. Other bands features include: Rhythm Collision, Brainsick, Ferd Mert, and a bunch of others. I'll end this by saying this, ADD SOME ORIGINALITY!

A.F.I.-All Hallows E.P.
(Nitro Records, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

I haven't really heard much of this bands newer material. I am a huge fan of their debut LP, but I never really have given anything else a listen. Even if many of you may lump these guys in the skate punk genre, I think the band avoids all of the clichés that come with this genre. The songs on this 4 song EP, has a very strong Misfits influence, hell they even cover Halloween. The music is emotional, well played and hell, it's fun. Davey (singer) is putting his heart and soul into the music and you can really tell. He is definitely one of the best front men around in punk these days. There is a lot more going on here then your typical punk band. Some of you may be turned off by the melody, but it's not ska and it's not really upbeat melody. It's more melancholy. If you are into this band pick this up, if you are looking for something new in the overcrowded world on melodic punk I suggest you check this puppy out.

Jugheads Revenge-Pearly Gates
(Nitro Records, 1999)
(3.5 out of 5)

Despite that most of my favorite bands are in the extreme genres, Jughead's Revenge is always invading my cd player. I think I've listened to their last LP a thousand times, and I still listen to it quite a bit. So I was eager to put this disc in and give it a spin. Maybe I was expecting too much, but this didn't hit me the same way. It's probably the best sounding record they have ever made, but the songs aren't as instantly memorable. It has it's moments, but overall it's not as good as I hoped. Musically and lyrically it's still the same ol' Jughead. The songs are either raging, or more mid-paced, but always catchy and rather melodic. One new thing did appear on this cd, the use of hardcore sounding backup vocals, which definitely add to the music. So it's a good cd, but I was just expecting more I suppose.

Lock Up-Pleasures Pave Sewers
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

The band is Lock Up, the music is pure adrenaline filled death metal! Any questions? Good. This band features members of Napalm Death, along with the ex-drummer of Cradle of Filth and a singer that sounds very familiar, but I quite frankly have no idea who it is. The music is raging, and has a crusty feel to it at times. I am very surprised that I like this as much as I do, it reminds me quite a bit of newer Napalm Death material. The main differences are that this always has the extremity on 100%, doesn't ever resort to filler and isn't as boring as the last few Napalm albums. The only complaint I have is a pretty stupid one, this band is just too tight! It's far too polished for my tastes, but with a drummer like Barker what else would you expect? If you are disappointed by the newer Napalm Death albums and want to hear some raging death metal check this CD out! There should be a warning on this CD: contents may cause death!

Aeternus-Shadows of Old
(Hammerheart, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

Every time I hear this band they keep making me shake my head in amazement. Very few bands strike me as being totally unique, but Aeternus are their own entity. The band treads on the borders between death metal and black metal, but atmospheric death metal would be the title I'd place on the bands sound. The music rages for the most part, blasting at break neck speeds with the singer growling over top. Notice I said growling, not screeching. The atmosphere comes into play when the band slows things down, but the riffing is generally atmospheric as it leans more towards chording then speed picking. Whether blasting, or beating a groove into submission, this band is at the head of the atmospheric death metal genre. No band I have heard even comes close! If you are looking for a totally unique listening experience, look into some Aeternus material. I highly recommend this cd, as well as Beyond the Wandering Moon, which is also available from Hammerheart.

Night Conquers Day-Rebellion is the Art of Survival
(Hammerheart, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

At first I thought I was going to hate this cd. I kind of just assumed that it was truer than thou black metal, but I was pleasantly surprised. This is epic and I mean epic black metal that takes a great deal from traditional heavy metal, in particular a Mercyful Fate/King Diamond influence. The running time of the songs was intimidating, but the band does a very good job at keeping things interesting. If this was straight blasting, keyboard filled black metal I probably would have lost interest half way through the first song, but the old school influence really does it for me. I love the use of melody in a lot of the riffing. The absence of overpowering keys helps as well. My only complaint is the production. The guitars and drums are a little muddy. I was pleasantly surprised to see that this band was from the US! Easily one of the best black metal bands I have heard from the States. If you are into black metal and have a thing for it being epic, this cd is for you! Cheers to Hammerheart from bringing some high quality metal! Horns up!

Hecate Enthroned-Kings of Chaos
(Blackened, 1999)
(3 out of 5)

Has this band finally learned that they are a Cradle of Filth rip-off? I think they may just have. This cd is a much more extreme version of the whole black/death sound and really aside from a few parts bears little resemblance to Cradle of Filth. Not anywhere near as plagoristic as their past material. So yea it doesn't still rip off COF, but is it good? That, my friend, is a good question. This is definitely their best album to date and is definitely the most worthwhile to pick up. No more will this band live in the shadows, but then again will the fact that they began their careers as a clone stop people from checking this out?

Rebaelliun-Burn the Promised Land
(Hammerheart, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

Fuck the US! The best death metal comes from Brazil. Any of you that drool when I mention the names Krisiun and Abhorrence, can start salivating because there is a new name to learn, and that name is Rebaelliun! This band is 100% extreme face peeling death metal. Fans of Morbid Angel will enjoy the spastic soloing and the wild nature of the riffing. This band is truly awesome! Not is the sense that they make me want to spit forth adjectives that only a surfer would use, but they truly leave me in awe! 9 tracks are found on here and not one is a let down. I cannot stress this enough, if you are into death metal you must own this cd! This shit is mandatory. While you are at it check out Krisiun and Abhorrence. Brazil is ready to take the death metal word by storm. We may have a new leader folks!

Control Denied-The Fragile Art of Existence
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(3 out of 5)

To be honest I was just expecting this to sound like Death with a more melodic singer, and I think I was right, to a certain degree. If you take Death take out a lot of the technicality and speed, you basically get Control Denied. By no means is this a bad record though. The melodic singing is excellent and really suits the music. The musicianship is stellar and the songs are even quite memorable. I just don't like the fact that you could pretty much take any of these songs and throw in a few faster riffs, add screaming and presto you have a Death song. It doesn't seem like a separate entity, it just seems like Death with a new singer. Fans of progressive power metal will probably dig this. It's too similar to Death for me though.

Judas Iscariot-Distant in Solitary Night
(Moribund, 1999)
(2 out of 5)

It's fast, it's evil and damn does it ever sound like Dark Throne! The fact that they sound like D.T. is not the problem I have with this, it just lacks time changes and isn't very well structured. The production is quite good as well, but this really doesn't do anything for me. Fans of raw, "cult" black metal will probably dig this!

Nomad-The Devilish Whirl
(Novum Pax Mortic, 1999)
(3.5 out of 5)

Excellent! The music on this cd is suburb. Imagine a more brutal version of Vader mixed with more melody and tempo changes. One can also not overlook the excellent lead guitar passages. So, why 3.5 out of 5? The singing is what brings this down! The singer reminds me of the singer from Vader, but not as convincing. He also really needs to work on actually using some vocal patterns. Right now, it seems like he just grunts and growls when he chooses. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. So musically this is top notch, but the vocals need some work. Top notch packaging as well!

Abigor-Channeling the Quintessence of Satan
(Napalm Records, 1999)
(3.5 out of 5)

I have heard a lot of people talk about this band in the past, and I have to been curious to check them out for sometime now. Am I impressed? To a certain extent I suppose I am. This is some pretty fierce black metal that definitely reeks of the underground. No keyboards, female vocals, or other such nonsense. The best thing this group has to offer is the melody found within the riffing. You have to strain sometimes to hear it, but underneath the noisy chording, there are some pretty effective melodies to be found. So yea this is black metal, does it offer anything new? Not really, but hell how much more can you do with black metal? Fans of the bands previous material will probably be into this.

Summoning-Stronghold
(Napalm Records, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

Summoning are another band I have heard a lot about in the past and if this cd is any indication of what their previous material sounded like then I may have to spend some cash. This cd is pure atmosphere. Not fast, not violent, and above all this is trend free! This is atmospheric without using tons of synths and wind effects. There are synths, but for the most part it is the guitars that create the atmosphere. This almost seems like background music, but ya know what I still like this more then most black metal albums around these days. So if you are looking for something original, or just need a soundtrack for AD&D this is the cd for you! All of you who any like Dark Throne clones need not check this stuff out, this is what you would call "gay."

Himsa-Ground Breaking Ceremony
(Revelation, 1999)
(5 out of 5)

This may just be the hardcore record of the year! Explosive, varied, astonishing, the list of adjectives to describe this band could go on forever. Himsa pound through the 10 tracks with so much emotion that you can't help but be moved by it. Whether they are playing chaotically fast, or throwing you a curve ball with an acoustic guitar part, this band is heavy, mellow and everything in between. This band is from Seattle and if the other hardcore bands from this area are even half this good we may have a scene to look out for. Fans of Converge will definitely dig this! If you are looking for straight up hardcore circa 1984 look elsewhere. BUT if you are looking for some of the most varied and emotional hardcore ever burned on to plastic, look no further!

Will Haven-WHVN
(Revelation, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

Calling this cd hardcore maybe stretching things a little bit, but let's call this metal influenced hardcore just for the sake of putting a label on it. Imagine a cross between Neurosis, Coalesce and Visions of Disorder. Sound like a weird combination? You better believe it is, and boy does this ever fucking rock! They take the grooves common of Coalesce, the weirdness of Neurosis and presto out pops Will Haven. This cd isn't as heavy as say maybe Suffocation, but it is pretty damn heavy. As heavy as this genre comes. If it means anything to you this is one of Max Cavalera's favorite bands. If you dig metally hardcore I highly recommend this cd. It manages to be heavy without stealing riffs from Slayer and raging about meat-eaters! Two thumbs up!

Snapcase-Designs for Automation
(Victory, 1999)
(4 out of 5)

So what we have here is a three song sampler of the new Snapcase album that should be coming out near the end of January. The three tracks are pretty much the standard Snapcase sound, slow groovy hardcore with quirky hooks in the riffing and shouted vocals. I am not totally familiar with all of the bands material, but this seems like it is pretty much in the vein of their older material. This is only three tracks so I can't really make a judgment on the entire cd, but if all of the songs are this good this album will be one to watch out for. Definitely one of the most anticipated hardcore albums in some time. Does it disappoint? I'd have to say no. Check out the interview for more info on this release.

Dead Silent Slumber-Entombed in the Midnight Hour
(Hammerheart, 1999)
(2 out of 5)

Not really much to say about this one I'm afraid. It kind of went by without leaving any impression. It's a solo project of a member of the band Naglfar, and this does the same thing to me as Naglfar, nothing. You can tell that he's trying to do something new, but it just sounds like old school influenced black metal. It's not all that extreme and hell I just don't really dig it. This somewhat reminded me of the more epic moments Bathory have had over their career. But this really doesn't interest me one bit.

Grade-Under the Radar
(Victory, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
For some reason I was expecting the typical Victory Records type sound, but this is probably the most unique band on the Victory roster. Grade can only be called melodic and emotional hardcore, there really is no other way to put it. The music is extremely catchy, yet at the same time the singer screams over top. Which can be quite effective, at first it sounds strange, but after a few listens it starts to all come together. The singer does sing sometimes as well, but the screaming is what makes this band stand out. Many bands play melodic music like this and none of these bands really stand out from the pack, but Grade stand out big time! Once again this really isn't your typical hardcore band or your typical hardcore album. It may be a bit too melodic for some of you, but if you are willing to give something new a try I suggest you try this disc.

Cause for Effect/Utter Bastard-split 3" cd
(????, ????)
(5 out of 5)
This little piece of plastic starts off with 11 tracks by the band Cause for Effect, a grind rock band from Finland. The only way to describe this would be taking the Dead Kennedys and mixing it with a grind band. But anyway you take it, this band rules and in my opinion definitely stole the show. The Utter Bastard songs were a great deal heavier and were more typical sounding grind. Definitely energetic and definitely also worth while. The vocals are pretty crazy screaming for the most part. Utter Bastard contributes 5 songs to this 3" piece of digital destruction.

Disgorge-Chronic Corpora Infest
(American Line, 1998)
(5 out of 5)
This isn't the newest Disgorge album but American Line sent me a copy so I decided to review it anyway. This is some extremely crazy death metal from Mexico. This is the type of stuff that gets lumped into the gore-grind genre, but all of these bands just play death metal if you ask me. It's just extremely aggressive death metal played by people who listened to the first Carcass album too many times. Actually this band doesn't sound much like old school Carcass. The vocal influence is there, but this stuff is much more technical then Carcass was back then and its actually much better! This band's newer material is probably even better then this! If you are into what folks like to call gore-grind, or just very aggressive and blasting death metal I highly recommend you check out this band! It's got the sick artwork we have all come to love as well!

Kabak-Descomposition Cerebral
(American Line, 1999)
(3 out of 5)
Another slab of gore-grind, but this didn't really sound like most bands in the genre, it has a sound reminiscent of either American death metal, or maybe even Spanish death metal bands like Avulsed or Reincarnation. This reminds me quite a bit of a band, but I can't really place who it is. The music doesn't constantly blast, there are a lot of double bass oriented parts as well. The vocals are of the guttural variety and remind me of Dave Rotten quite a bit. The one thing lacking about this cd is the production. It just isn't heavy enough. There is a lot of cool stuff going on but the guitars are too quiet and just aren't heavy enough. I'd recommend this to fans of Avulsed and anyone else into death metal. They need to get a more powerful production in the future.

Cangrena-Demoniak Transition
(American Line, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
From the artwork I was expecting black metal, but this band plays extremely weird death metal. The vocals are definitely guttural, but they have a gurgling quality to them, and the music just moves around a lot. They also don't always stick to the same old death metal beats, which is always a good thing. If you have ever said to yourself I am looking for some weird and varied death metal that is always heavy, this is the band for you. Hell this isn't even the tightest band I have ever heard, but this just adds to the chaotic nature of the bands sound. Trust me when I say this, you have never heard anything like this before!

Massacres from the Jungle 3
(American Line, 1999)
(3 out of 5)
Compilations usually get on my nerves. You usually have a few good bands, a few really mad bands, and the rest just linger in the middle somewhere. This compilation is no exception. Most of the bands on here are black metal, or atleast of the melodic death metal variety. The best band on here is definitely The Zephyr, who play thrashy black metal that steals the show. I think I see why they made this song the kick off of this compilation. The tracks by Kabak and Purulent are pretty cool as well. This is pretty much a black metal comp with some death metal thrown in. Not mandatory, but still not bad.

Engorged-Death Metal Attack 2
(Razorback, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
Razorback really did all of us a favor by releasing this cd. Engorged take death metal, add some grind, and then top it off with some thrash influences. Does this make for a good sound? It a word, yes. How could you not love a band that uses horror movie samples and has pictures of the Cobra Command on their cd insert? The music if fast, very fast. The vocals are varied and pretty crazy. The only thing I could complain about was the production, but that is just getting really picky. Awesome packaging, as well as the bonus tracks from their Death Metal Attack, really makes this cd worth picking up. Do yourself a favor and send Jill or Billy some money. Check back next issue for an interview with Engorged.

A Hog Wild Tale of Terror Comp.
(Razorback, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
Well, well, well, it seems that Razorback has brought out another compilation, and should anyone care? YOU'D BETTER FUCKING BELIEVE IT! This comp features 25 bands that either death metal, or goregrind (same thing). So if you are looking for goth, black metal, industrial, or anything else, please look elsewhere. This is pure underground sickness at it's finest. Some of the bands include Deranged, Impaled, Last Days of Humanity, Birdflesh, Fleshtized, Incarrion and many more. I highly recommend this comp. Why? Because it's great that's why. On a related note, the debut cd of Machetazo will be released on Razorback sometime in the new year. This will cd will definitely be something to look out for!

No Rest for the Dead-The End of Space
(Deaf America, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
This band just leaves me speechless. I was a huge fan of their last demo, and this cd is a thousands times better. It may be a little less death metal, with a lot of added funkiness, but hell is still rules. If this band is new to you, No Rest for the Dead are a Japanese grind band that like to add a lot of stoner rock influence to their music. Imagine a cross between Jimi Hendrix and Napalm Death. Fast as fuck one minute, and wah wah drenched the next. This truly is an original band and they are definitely a band that deserves attention. There are only 6 songs on here, but the final song is almost an hour long and shows off the bands rock side! So once again I'll say that Japanese music rules! Check out the interview in this issue for more information on this great band!

Sinner-The Second Decade
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
The sinner, the sinner, the sinner, he's coming to get you! Opps, wrong band. Anyway, what we have here is a look at some rare, live, and just great songs from the past of this great band that has now been playing for 20 years! So if any of you have yet to hear this band, they are one of the best power metal bands around these days. They may not have the technicality of say Blind Guardian, or the guitar acrobatics of others, but Sinner just plain ol' rocks. Along with Primal Fear, this is my favorite power metal band around these days. Check them out! It's a shame that they will soon be calling it quits, I think.

Karma to Burn-Wild Wonderful Purgatory
(MIA, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
Rock n Roll hoochie coo or something. First of I'll say that I am not a huge fan of instrumental music, and this cd is an instrumental cd that really didn't have to be instrumental. Vocals would have went with this stuff pretty easily. SO either the band can't find a singer, or they want to be instrumental. This cd is pretty rockin none the less though. Take some Sabbath, some Kiss, some stoner rock, throw it in a blender and the liquid that results would be Karma to Burn. I would see fans of bands like Fu Manchu being into this stuff. It's dirty, it's loud, and yep, it's rock n roll.

Bal Sagoth-The Power Cosmic
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(2 out of 5)
I've never been a fan of this band, and that definitely hasn't changed with their new cd. I guess you could call this melodic and progressive black metal, which may appeal to some, but I don't really dig it. While some of the synths are just too happy sounding for me, there are a few moments were this band kicks it into overdrive and plays some cool riffs, but then come in the synths and we have the newest soundtrack to Dungeons and Dragons. I don't like this at all. It does have some excellent cover art though.

Pegazus-Breaking the Chains
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(3 out of 5)
Some bands on Nuclear Blast may be too metal for their own good. Pegazus definitely are one of those bands. Here are some song names to give you an idea of what I am talking about. "Metal Forever, Queen Evil, Tears of the Angels" among others. Musically this is pretty standard stuff influenced by the once great Iron Maiden. While this isn't the most original band around I guess fans of power metal would dig this, it's a bit too unoriginal for me though. It just doesn't have that extra special something that say Primal Fear has. It doesn't stand out. Well played, but not really outstanding in anyway.

Agathodaimon-Higher Art of Rebellion
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
I was really expecting this to be a cd that I was going to tear into, but it kind of surprised me. I didn't remember really liking the last cd this band released and wasn't expecting this to be any different. This is what I would call melodic black metal. Speed is yanked out and a whole lot of melody is thrown in to make up for lack of speed. At times this band reminds me quite a bit of Cradle of Filth, but they still are quite original. Even though this isn't really my cup of tea, this cd ain't bad at all. This review is kind of short, but if you are into melodic black metal look no further. This band is one of the better bands in this field

Dismember-Hate Campaign
(Nuclear Blast, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
I'm glad that Dismember have decided to stick to their guns and continue writing extreme material. Even though they really only slowed for one release it was enough to piss a lot of their fans off. With Death metal and now Hate Campaign are back doing what they do best. Playing high speed Swedish death metal that helped pave the way for countless other bands. Hate Campaign reminds me more of Indecent and Obscene then any of their other releases. I do think they have a bit of a Gothenburg influence now, meaning that it is more melodic, but fore the most part, it's pretty standard Dismember. The lyrics seem a bit more emotional now, and aren't really about hacking slashing and killing anymore. It's energetic, it's melodic and damnit it's Dismember! Check this out!

Bulemics/River City Rapists-split cd
(Man's Ruin, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
So, what we have here is a split of 2 rock n roll bands that both border on punk rock. High octane rock n roll riffs mixed with snotty vocals is what the Bulemics contribute to this cd. They remind quite a bit of the Hellacopters. Even if they sound like other bands, they still rock and put in a great 8 songs on this split. The River City Rapists are more punk then rock and offer up 8 songs on this split. They reminded me a little bit of early C.O.C. but without the speed. Both bands have a lot in common, but both are very unique and offer a great listening experience. I find myself liking the River City Rapists a great deal more due to the C.O.C. influence, but hell both bands will rawk your world! Take my word for it this, this is high adrenaline, high octane r'n'r!

Entombed-Black Juju
(Man's Ruin, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
A new Entombed album? What the hell is this? It's not what I would have expected at all really. To Ride, Shoot Straight... was pretty rocking, but still had relatively extreme sounding vocals. Maybe not death growls, but pretty close. Those are gone, and now replaced with your average stoner rock singing. Some of this cd is pretty cool, but it doesn't even sound like Entombed. It almost makes you think they put the wrong name on the cd. I dig the songs were they crank up the speed and play at a punk tempo. These songs sound much more like To Ride... So even if this is hit and miss, it does have a few songs that really hit the mark. A perfect example is the song Tear it Loose that just reeks of Motorhead. So I don't like all of the songs on here, but a few of the songs make this album worthwhile.

Hate Eternal-Conquering the Throne
(Wicked World, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
I must admit that I wasn't really expecting much from this cd, but it really blew me away. It just seemed like another one of those all-star super groups, one of those cds that would have a "this band includes members of..." sticker on the front. I was wrong, and this cd is one of the best death metal albums I have heard in a long time. Imagine a cross between Morbid Angel, Suffocation and Swedish death metal. Definitely some top notch blasting going on here folks! I'm going to keep this review short, but if you are into high quality death metal, with originality, look no further! Hate Eternal are ready to take you by the head and bash you until your bloody, and what an experience it is!

Vital Remains-Dawn of the Apocalypse
(Osmose, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
Holy shit is this cd ever intense! The lengths of the songs seemed a little intimidating, but hell this is great listen. From start to finish, every track on this cd is raging and boasts some of the best song writing this band has ever done. Some people have said that this album is more black metal then previous material, but I feel it's quite the opposite, this is total death metal! The drumming on this is stellar, this really pushes the boundaries for how fast double bass can be played. One of the factors that really makes this album stand out is the use of classical guitar. Solos and riffs are thrown in every now and again and it really adds to the music. This is one of the best albums that Osmose have released in quite sometime. If you are a fan of their previous material, or are just looking for an album that will totally blow you away, pick this up!

Longbrush-Sometimes EP
(Pavement, 1999)
(1 out of 5)
I hate short reviews, but this stinks. Don't buy this unless, you want to give your worst enemy a present!

Cenotaph-Puked Genital Purulency
(Hammer Music, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
Not to be confused with the Cenotaph from Mexico, this band is from Turkey. No matter where this band is from, they are an all out attack of the senses. As vicious as a machete to the skull, this band explodes with technical and somewhat catchy blasts of gore-grinding death metal. A few comparisons come to mind, but this is about as original as brutal death metal can be. The lyrics are straight out of the school of Carcass, ie. Splatter 101! Class is now in session. Umm, the music is pretty American sounding though. I could see fans of Suffocation and the New York style of death metal getting into this. It's not really the mosh style of death metal though, if you know what I mean. If you are into death metal, this is definitely a band you should check out. Many new death metal releases have been disappointing but this is definitely worth while. You may want to check out the bands previous album as well, Voluptuously Minced.

Hammer Music
Muhurdar cad.Akmar pas. 70/12
Kadikoy 81300 Istanbul
TURKEY

Social Infestation-Redemption is only Skin Deep...
(Reactionary/Goatlord, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
What we have here, is well, a damn fine album. S.I. play crusty grind with a little bit of groove and noise thrown into the whole thing. For some reason these guys remind me of Ear Bleeding Disorder, but with better song writing and less samples. I found it pretty cool that they didn't include lyrics, just an explanation of what each song is about. The themes they deal with are primarily society based issues. Child abuse, human nature, and everything that is wrong with society today. I also really dig the fact that they won't sell this cd for more then $5. I think more bands need to realize that this, punk music, isn't about profit. It is about conveying a message. This is a great cd that I definitely recommend to fans of grind.

Puaka Balava-s/t
(Independent, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
This reminded me of a more straight-forward version of Neurosis mixed with some death metal. It's somewhat along the lines of Coalesce and a few of the other hardcore bands that rely on groove and repetition to band their tunes home. This band hails from the state of Georgia. A state that I am really unfamiliar with in terms of music. But this band is top notch and very professional sounding. I can't really call this death metal, it is heavy, but it reminds me more of the new school of hardcore then any death metal I've heard. If you are into Neurosis, Coalesce, or even Converge in their noisier moments I think you should check out this cd. I think one of the members of this band also runs a cool 'zine called Scabies.
P.O. Box 375
Lithia Springs, GA.
30122

Soulreaper Records-Promo Sampler
(Soulreaper, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
I don't think this cd is available for sale, but I thought I would review it just to introduce the bands on the label. The bands on here are Anaemia, Iconoclasm, Aborted, Abnegation, Liar, Length of Time and Deformity. Anameia have been described as a cross between Mortician, Nasum, and Terrorizer. I suppose that fits. It's basically grindy death metal with a drum machine. Definitely cool stuff. Check out the ad for their debut release in this issue somewhere. Iconoclasm is pretty much just your everyday average black metal band, it does have a thrash influence that I dig though. So they aren't them most original band around but they offer some pretty raging black metal. Abnegation are pretty much just grinding death metal, but the songs are horribly produced and you need to turn it up just to hear it. They have a pretty strong American influence and share the same love for grooves that most US bands have. This is definitely a band that could have a good demo or album out that kids in the US would love. Liar played a combination of death metal and hardcore. It was kind of grindy at time, but was very catchy for the most part. The vocals are harsh shrieks somewhat similar to Carcass, but not taken to the same overblown level of shrieking. Quite possibly my favorite band on here is Deformity. They play grinding hard-core, and it just explodes with so much energy that you can't help but take notice. They are definitely the most energetic band on this comp and are a band that I would love to see release a full-length album. Length of Time, like every band on here, play a combination of hardcore and death metal. All of these bands are definitely above average and deserve to be heard. Be on the look out!

Waco Jesus-Destruction of Commercial Scum
(United Guttural, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
The packaging for this cd is just plain disgusting. I have never been one to enjoy shit eating and this booklet makes me want to vomit! Musically this reminded me a lot of Lividity, but with longer songs. Even the song names reminded me of the filthy fucks called Lividity. So even though it does sound like Lividity, it is still definitely worth while. The songs are a bit more grind oriented then Lividity and some times reminded me a little bit of Gut, but without the stupid sounding vocals. I'll give you a few song names to tell you exactly what kind of sickos we are dealing with here, "A Butt Plug in your Pussy, My Fist in Your Ass," "Cunt Killer,", and "Virgin Assassin." I'd definitely recommend this to fans of Lividity. Man I said Lividity a lot in this review.

Malignancy-Intrauterine Cannibalism
(United Guttural, 1999)
I was a big fan of this bands last demo, and this cd is just as killer. Raging death metal with some of the coolest riffs I have heard in a long time. It's definitely US death metal and they don't do anything to hide it.

That said though, they are not a rip-off band by any stretch of the imagination. I can't even really think of a band to compare them to. They have the technicality, the groove, and above all are just heavy as fuck. Lyrically this really isn't anything new, but it doesn't rely on gore for every song. The song about having a colostomy bag kind of made me shake my head, but that was the only song with lyrics bordering on the typical side of things. As far as death metal goes this a great release that all of you psycho's should be able to get into with little trouble.

Aborted-The Purity of Perversion
(Unixcon, 1999)
(5 out of fucking 5)
If any of you had any doubts that the best death metal always comes from foreign countries, Aborted will prove you wrong. I was kind of expecting Aborted to be little more then your average everyday Carcass clone, but I was blown away by what I would consider one of the best death metal albums of the year. The music is very energetic and the band sounds convincing. Some bands sound they just aren't 100% behind the music, these guys are 110% into it. The songs are sometimes fast, sometimes slow, but always heavy and always catchy. Of course the horror movie samples are in there as well, using great clips from movies like Bad Taste, Brain Dead, Evil Dead and a few more I couldn't recognize. The lyrics are of the gory variety and the packaging if filled with pictures of gore and death. It all just adds to how good this album is. I also just found out that the band has signed with Repulse Records. So pick up this cd and then look out for their debut release on Repulse Records. If you liked death metal you won't be disappointed.

Devourment-Molesting the...
(United Guttural, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
This Texas band doesn't really offer anything new, but this 8 song cd is definitely a worthwhile purchase for any death metal fan. They remind me of Suffocation without the guitar solos. The vocals are beyond guttural, and band is either blasting or bashing out a slow groove. Imagine Effigy... period Suffocation. They actually sound pretty similar to fellow Texan's Prophecy, but maybe even better. I haven't heard the new Prophecy material yet, but despite any comparisons I may make this is some severely bludgeoning death metal that deserves to be listened to godamnit! I can't get over how guttural the vocals are! Fans of ugly, disgusting death metal, go out and buy, buy, buy!

Rotting-Crushed
(United Guttural, 1999)
(4 out of 5)
Crushed is exactly how this cd will leave you after you take a listen. Canadian death metal at it's finest right here! This band has a great deal of energy, the music really flies out of the speaker and smacks you upside the head. I find myself enjoying this band when they are playing fast, but at the same time they really know how to stomp and lay down a groove. This isn't really a technical affair, the riffs seem fairly simple. This only helps to drive the songs home, making each song unique. I think that the production could have been a little cleaner, but that is pretty much my only complaint. The lyrics are also a bit typical at times, but that doesn't really hurt the music at all. Along with Blood of Christ, and Cryptopsy, these guys are now one of my favorite Canadian bands.

Ember-Concession
(Shadow Play, 1999)
(5 out of 5)
I was expecting this to be black metal, which it was, but at the same time it wasn't. It was like a cross between thrash, black metal and punk, yep, punk. It sort of reminded me of Impaled Nazarene mixed with Hellhammer. Comparisons aside, this is one hell of a cd. It contains 5 new songs, as well as the bands three demos. They play a few covers that are definitely not the songs you would expect. They play a Misfits song, as well as a Naked Raygun song. The older demo tracks have a much more black metal feel, and I must say that I like the newer material a great deal better. Not just because it is better produced, but also because it is a great deal more original. Write these guys!

Ember
PO Box 2177
Darien, IL. 60561
USA

DEMO REVIEWS

(See contact pages for addresses)

Ghetto Blaster-Wadin' Knee Deep in da Blood of Sucka M.C's
After starting with a funny sample that praises heavy metal and puts down punk, this explodes into some groovy grindcore slightly reminiscent of Dismembered Fetus crossed with a punk band. Thankfully this band doesn't resort to being total noisecore and pretty much always sounds like they are playing music. They even have some guitar solos thrown in. So imagine D.F. having anal sex with a groovy rock n roll band, while a punk band circle jerks around them and you basically have Ghetto Blaster. You also can't help but crack a smile at the samples they use. Putting a picture of Michael Jackson on the cover helps a lot too!

Perversist-Flirting with Disaster, Short Ways to Death
People that think the only good death metal bands come from the US and Sweden need to open their eyes a little bit. The Czech Republic also has quite a few death metal to offer. Perversist is one of the best bands from this area I've heard so far. The band plays fairly original death metal that really hits home due to some catchy riffs. They remind me a little bit of Krabathor but with deeper vocals. If you can't get enough death metal I suggest you check out this bands demo. You may also want to check out the bands split Ep with Prophecy, called Short Ways of Death. It contains 2 new songs that pretty much continue in the same style, but with a much production. Write these guys! Look for their ad somewhere in this issue!

Fetuxion-Various Demos
I wasn't really sure what to expect from this band. I was expecting noisy grind type stuff. I was right. I was not really shocked when I learned that they may this stuff up on the spot. In fact it sounds like a much more death metal version of Anal Cunt mixed with Mortician. So it's good for what it is, but it really isn't mandatory. I'd recommend that they actually write some songs. Now that I think of it this does remind me quite a bit of Mortician. If they took the time to work on songwriting and maybe lost the drum machine these guys would be much better.

Vastion-Cold Stares of the Dead
I first heard Vastion on the Gore is Your Master compilation CD and to be honest the track on there didn't impress me very much. It was raging death metal, but it suffered from a bad production and it didn't sound as tight as it should have been. Well, let's just say that Vastion have drastically improved. This demo features 3 new songs of blasting death metal that are actually quite original. This is not another Dying Fetus, Internal Bleeding or Suffocation clone. The production is clean and the band sounds a great deal tighter now. The songs are also pretty varied. The speed is on 110% for most of the time, but they have some slower melodic riffs and also some clean guitar parts. This is definitely one of the best new bands I've heard in awhile from the US underground. Write these guys!

Divination-Obsessed
This cd reminded me of Broken Hope. Both bands add slow acoustic or clean guitar parts that don't fit the music one bit. All of you death metal bands need to learn something about dynamics, an slow clean part doesn't really work well as an intro to a blast beat. Anyway, this cd is pretty much your standard death metal. Nothing to special, or really anything to set them apart. It's well played, but I found myself only really liking this band when they were playing fast. This reminded me of Broken Hope mixed with Deaden, but the clean tone guitar parts really turned me off. As did some really bad sounding lead guitar work in the first song. It's not the worst demo I've ever heard, but it just doesn't keep my interest. Did I mention that I don't like Broken Hope either?

Desperator-Devil in These Guys
5 songs of pure fucking Swedish hardcore grind! Well actually I don't know how pure it truly is because there are rock n roll elements as well as death metal elements thrown in. But any way you look at it, this rocks! If you like grind and I know you do this is definitely a band you should check out! This is definitely a band to look out for. The music rages, the vocals are harsh, and hell, this just plain makes me blow my stack! So if you want some new tunes write these guys and beg them to send you their demo. Sending them some cash would probably help persuade them.

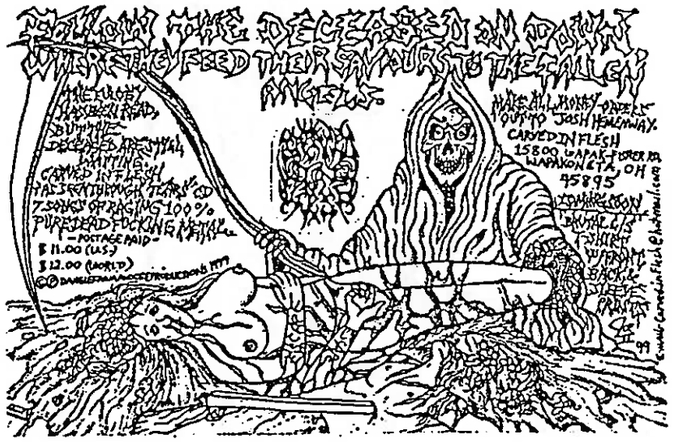
CBT-Cocktales
I first heard this band on the Gore is Your Master compilation and I definitely find this cd a better representation of what they sound like. Cock and Ball Torture are what I guess you would call goregrind, grinding death metal somewhat similar to bands like Gut. The comparison to Gut is really only for lyrics and subject matter. This is some perverted shit. Some song titles include Scrotum Blast, Cuntkiller, Pussy Commando and many more odes to the depraved. I'm really glad the band stays away for the noisecore genre. Even though the vocals are harmonized and beyond guttural, it always sounds like there is music and some of the riffs are even quote catchy. It is a little sloppy at times, but hell it doesn't matter. This band isn't about technicality I was definitely surprised by the lack of samples, but this is a great release none the less. Fans of Gut should definitely be into this.

CBT
C/o Sacha
Heinrichstr. 12
83352 Altenmarkt
Germany

Carrier Flux-Time Will Never Come
From the creator of Vorpal Bunny, comes a black metal project called Carrier Flux. The fur doesn't fly this time around, but the shit hits the fan is a much more sinister way this time. The music is actually quite original, and features quite a bit of atmosphere. I can't even think of who to compare this too, the music ranges from blasting to slow, and is always melodic. Vocals range from the standard shriek, to a spacey sounding clean voice that adds tons of originality to the music. Definitely not you're standard black metal here. So if you are looking for something new in black metal I encourage you to write Jeff and find out more about this band, which I assume is a one-man project.

Dr. Terror and the Synthetic Erections-s/t
Another one of Jeff's projects, this time around this is a journey to the weirder side of things. I think Jeff did too many drugs one night, or just wanted to have some fun with Fruity Loops. I'm really at a loss for words to describe this. It's definitely all electronic and revolves around samples and loops. Sometimes dark and sinister, other times pretty upbeat. I'm really don't know anything about electronic music so comparisons are not really going.to come to mind, this is definitely worth checking out. The songs that are guitar oriented definitely have an industrial feel, but actually use live guitars, which is a nice change. Just write Jeff and ask him about all of his bands. Help the guy fix his car while you are at it!

Jeff (Carrier Flux, DJ Terror)
PO Box 21428
Columbia Heights, MN.
55421 USA



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E-mail: Vastiondth@aol.com
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ZODIAC OF DEATH

(Dan Lasseter and Donna Holiday)

Every now and again I'll find myself in a bookstore, and for some reason I'll find myself gravitating towards the true crime section. While most books in this section are either auto-biographical, or about many different murderers, this book takes a look at how we may be able to prevent violent crimes by talking a look at a persons astrological charts. The book takes a look at 50 serial killers/criminals and tells you the crimes they committed as well as how the planets were aligned at their time of birth and how this relates to the crimes they have committed. I really haven't given much thought to all of this in the past, but if it can help prevent crimes like this from happening the authorities should look into using astrology as a form of either crime prevention, or as an investigation tool. I found this book quite different then many of the true crime books I've read in the past. It wasn't about telling you all of the graphic details and didn't have any pictures whatsoever. It wasn't written from a perspective of fascination, this book is about explaining how the date of birth can affect a persons mental state and their personality in general. This book may not be for all of you, but I found it very interesting. I'm sure you can find it at your local book store.
(Berkely Books, New York)

CONTACT ADDRESSES

Freddy says to get in touch with all of these bands and labels. If you don't, the next time you sleep may be your last trip to dream land! When mailing the bands be sure to either include stamps, ircs, or a couple of bucks for return postage. Not every one is as rich as I am! I cannot stress how important buying releases and supporting smaller labels is. Many of these labels barley make any profit, and are struggling to put out the best underground bands from around the world. If you don't spend money, the scene will die. It's as simple as that. While you're at it start paying for my 'zine, ya cheapskate! Do you expect everything for free?

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93406
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Los Angelese, CA.
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Sweden

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94539-4815
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11754 USA

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Extremist Records
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Akron, OH.
44319 USA

MIA Records
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New York, NY.
10013 USA

Hammerheart
PO Box 277
6300
AG Valkenburg
The Netherlands

Band Addresses

Impaled
2010 Fell St.
San Francisco, CA
94117 USA

No Rest for the Dead
C/o K Nozawa
1-7-209, Inukura 3, Kawasaki
Kanagwa
216-0011 JAPAN

Carved in Flesh
15800 Wapak-Fisher Rd.
Wapaneta, OH
45895 USA

Skinless
PO Box 829
Saratoga Springs, NY
12866-0289 USA

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Inglewood, CA
90309 USA

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Ghetto Blaster
PO Box 3023
South Brisbane B.C.
QLD 4101 AUSTRALIA

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Grindvagen 10 A
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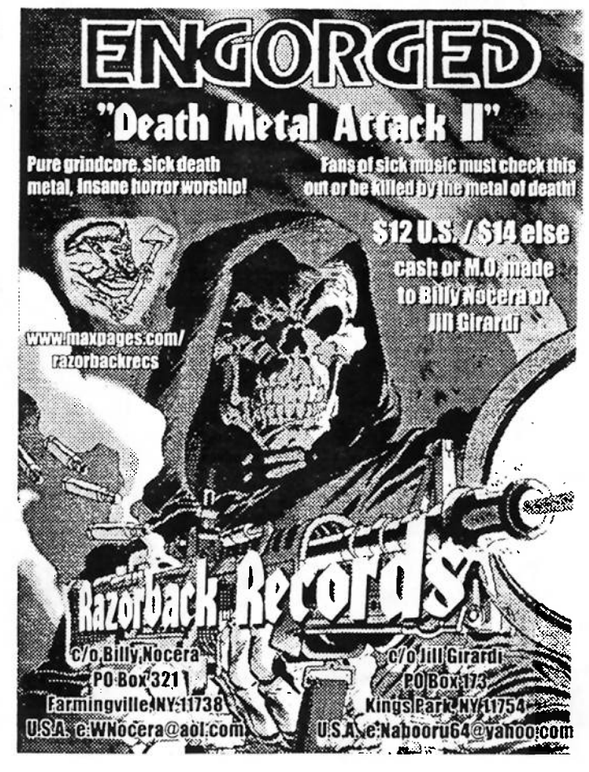


DISTROS AND MAIL ORDER:

Here's a list of a few distros I have checked out in the last little while. Get in touch and send these fine folks some money!

Machismo Productions
PO Box 3023 STH.
Brisbane B.C.
4101 QLD.
Australia

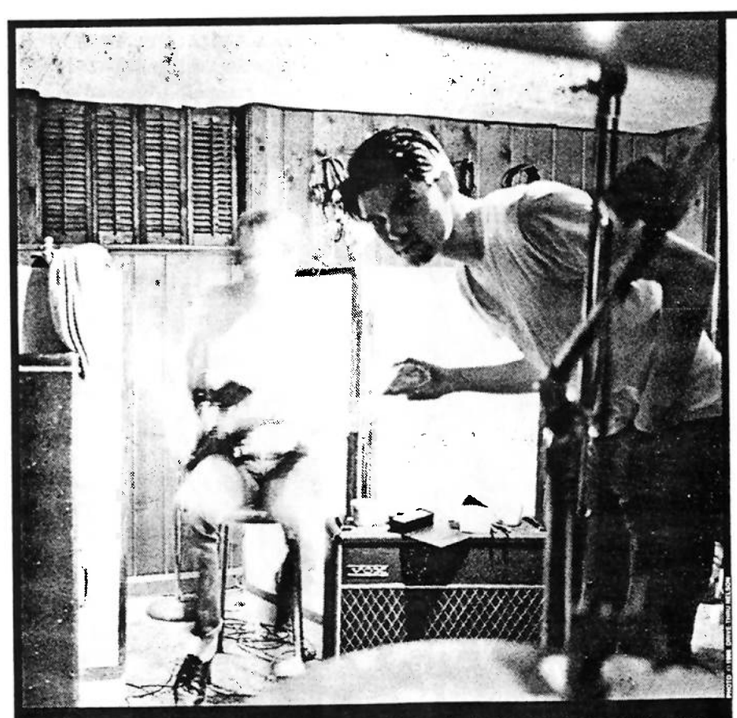
Machismo is a distro. and label out of Australia that offers quite a few cds, tapes and eps, all of which are either grind, hardcore, or noisecore. If you are into stuff like Gut, Impetigo, and Final Exit, this is the distro for you!

Brutalized Distro
(see 'zine addresses)

Even though I haven't ordered anything from Phil's distro yet, I thought I should mention that he is now running a distro. If you are into death metal, this is definitely the distro for you. Phil also says that his prices are very cheap and I'm sure that he has quite a bit of stuff to offer. Write him and ask for a list.

Just a quick note here: Rosemary of **Obscure 'zine** is starting a distro, so any of you bands out there that want to have your stuff sold should send her some samples. This is definitely something I could see working, so get in touch and help her get this thing started! The address is with the rest of the 'zine addresses.

If you run a distro and you want me to throw some info in here for you, send me a catalog and tell me everything I need to know. If you are a rip-off please don't bother writing, I don't want to tell my readers to order from someone I wouldn't order from myself. All of you distros, that aren't RIPOFFS!, get in touch!



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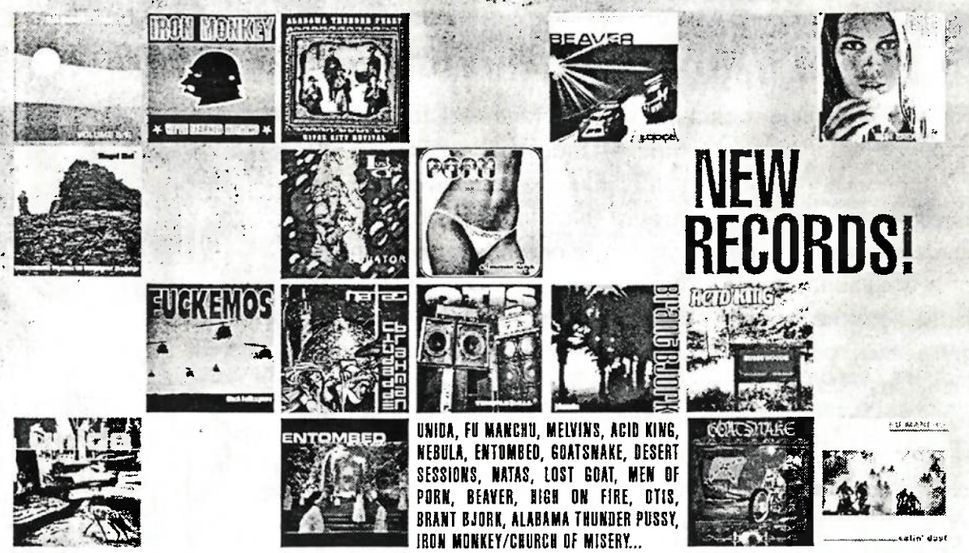
NEXT ISSUE (JUNE 2000!)

The next issue of this rag should be out sometime near June so be sure to get your stuff into me in time to be reviewed, featured, interviewed, etc. Once again I'd like to thank everyone that has helped me out in anyway with this 'zine. Even though I'm still stubborn and I choose to do everything myself, in terms of writing and layout, any help I get is greatly appreciated. Many thanks go to everyone that helps me distribute this thing. I couldn't annoy people without you! Also a big thanks to, YOU! For actually taking the time to make it to the last page! I hope you like what you have read and please feel free to write me and tell me what you think. I get a lot of mail, but I definitely do not get enough telling me what you think of the 'zine. Whether it's positive or negative, write me and tell me what you think. I'm a big boy, so I can take the criticism. So damn well write me and let me know what you think! So until next time keep your ass clean and be sure to be on the lookout for the next issue of Unbound!



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